Tuskegee Institute, Alabama
December 31, 1927

For Release January 1, 1928

Dear Sir:

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924, and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repeal the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were--murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi,7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1; Virginia, 1.

Yours very truly,

Principal

LYNCHING RECORD 1927

According to the records compiled by the Department of Records and Research, there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924, and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2were put to death and then their bodies burned.

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COMPILED BY DEPARTMENT OF RECORDS
AND RESEARCH
TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, ALA.

Lynchings- 1927
Cases of.

Arkansas

2367

HOW WHITE CITIZENS OF LITTLE ROCK BURNED JOHN CARTER

A composite photograph depicting the actual lynching and burning at stake of John Carter by a crowd of the most prominent white citizens of Little Rock, Ark., on Thursday night, May 5. Carter was accused of having spoken harshly to a white woman. This picture shows the manner in which the mob chained him to a post in the heart of the business district, Ninth and Broadway, and applied torches to debris that burned his body to a crisp. His remains were left on public view for several hours. Law officials made no attempt to check the mob and save the city and state from this disgraceful exhibition of cannibalism.

YOUTH LYNCHED IN ARK. BY MOB OF 1000 WHITES

22 Year Old Negro Accused Of Being Club Wielder Is Victim Of Horrible Atrocity

POLICE DIRECT TRAFFIC AS LYNCHERS RUN WILD

Body Is Riddled With Bullets, Dragged Thru Business Section Of City And Burned. Fear Race War.

(Special to the Argus)

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., May 5.—John Carter, a 22-year-old colored youth, was hanged and his body dragged through the streets behind an automobile, riddled with bullets and then burned by a mob of about 3000 whites in this city Wednesday night. The boy was accused of having attacked a white woman and her daughter with a club.

Police Do Not Interfere

Hunting the alleged assailant of the womn like a pack of hungry, blood thirsty wolves, the mob of whites is said to have come upon Carter huddled in a tree, trembling with fright. Though police were on the scene when the boy was discovered in the tree and dragged down by the madmen, only one tried to interfere.

Snatching the almost hysteric youth from the tree, deafening and angry tones rent the air as the huge crazed mass of beast-like human demanded their "prey." With little ceremony, the youth was hanged from a telephone post. Although some say that he confessed his guilt of the crime for which he was hanged, and that the woman identified him, the truth of this may never be known. As the body of the youth swung in the air it was made the target for pistol fire of members of the mob.

Drag Body Thru Streets

The body was cut down from the tree and dragged down Main street behind an automobile, while a long string of cars trailed the leader, blowing their horns while their savage occupants shouted and laughed and sang like mad men. The street was crowded with office people going home at approximately 6:30 o'clock.

Body Burned

The body was burned at Ninth and Broadway, within eight blocks of the business section shortly after 7 o'clock.

As the flames leaped high into the air firing of guns mingled with the cries of women and children at the scene.

Colored citizens scattered as the mob, their loud cries echoing for blocks, dragged the body to the corner and made a huge bonfire. Police gave their attention to directing the traffic as the mob finished its heinous crime.

Describes Lynching

The lynching was described by one of those who witnessed it as follows:

Carter was surrounded by a mob numbering several thousand whites who found him in a tree after an all-day search. Though police were on the scene when he was found, only one officer sought to take charge of him.

He as a deputy sheriff and after Carter is said to have confessed having struck the women, he said "All right, boys, let's take him to town."

One of the leaders of the crowd with a gun replied that the prisoner was not going to town. After this no effort was made to take charge of the mob.

Body Made Target

The mob sent for the woman for whom it sought vengeance, and demanded that she identify the captive as her assailant. This she is said to have done, without hesitation.

Carter was then led to the tree, a rope fastened about his neck. The rope was not long enough to reach the top of the pole and a chain was fastened to the end of it.

Carter was then told to climb up on top of an automobile. This he started to do, but his knees gave way and the crowd pulled him to the top of the car. The car was then driven under him.

Leaders of the mob then ordered those with guns to step into the front so as not to wound any of the crowd. Then they began firing shots into the struggling body.

City Already Stirred

The lynching followed three days and nights of threatened mob action during which 100 heavily armed police have been guarding the city hall and homes of city officials. The first mob formed after the confession of Lonnie Dixon, aged 16, that he had assaulted and murdered little Florella McDonald, 12, and left her body in the belfry of the fashionable First Presbyterian Church.

A mob of several hundred stormed the penitentiary, firing shots through the office, then threatened the city hall and even threatened mob violence to Chief of Police B. C. Rotenberry. In the following night another mob formed and again searched the city hall and the penitentiary, although the Negro had been removed from the city. Wednesday night a smaller crowd again threatened the city hall and police were kept on hand for any emergency. Police then ordered a special consignment of ammunition for immediate use, fearing race trouble.

N. Y. WORLD
MAY 6 1927

OFFICIALS BLAMED FOR LYNCHING RIOT

Arkansas Governor Says They Could Have Halted Disorder and Probably Killing

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., May 5 (A. P.)—While a Grand Jury to-day investigated the lynching of John Carter, Negro, and subsequent disorders by a mob here last night, Gov. Martineau ordered State troops to remain on guard duty in the city.

The order was issued after he had summoned Mayor Moyer and Sheriff Haynie to the Capitol and discussed the situation with them. While he did not issue a formal statement, he said he was convinced police and Sheriff's forces could have averted the disorders and might have prevented the lynching.

The Governor said it was not within his province to remove any officials from office, even should he believe their failure to act justified it.

Carter was hanged and riddled with bullets by a mob of several hundred men after his capture in a tree near the city and an alleged confession that he attacked two white women yesterday. Later his body was attached to an automobile and dragged through downtown streets and then burned. Indiscriminate firing followed. This was subdued when State troops were ordered out.

Severe criticism of peace officers came from various quarters to-day, daily newspapers carrying editorials in which the city and county law officials were blamed for the disorders. Mayor Moyer in a statement, said the decision of the City Council not to order the police to attack the mob probably saved the lives of 250 persons.

This viewpoint was shared by Alderman Bilheimer, Acting Mayor at the time of the lynching, who said it had been decided to ask the Governor for troops after the Council deemed it was not best to send its small force to the scene. He said the mob was in no humor for argument.

NEW YORK
Mail & Eve Telegram
MAY 6 1927

CITY ACCUSED AFTER LYNCHING

Little Rock Business Men Ask Grand Jury to Investigate.

By the United Press.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., May 6.—One hundred and fifty business men of Little Rock have asked the Grand Jury to make a thorough investigation of reports that city officials deliberately left town to give free rein to the mob which lynched a negro here Wednesday.

The business men asked that the officials be ousted from office if the reports are substantiated.

In the meantime Arkansas National Guardsmen continued to patrol the city, preventing white persons from entering the negro district.

When it convenes Friday the Grand Jury will inquire into the hanging of John Carter, negro, after he had attacked two women.

Lynchings - 1927

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Arkansas.

2368

PROMINENT RACE MAN IS VICTIM OF ARK. MOB

Staff Correspondent Tells Of Forced Slavery In Many Sections Of Flood District

MELLWOOD, ARK., June 16.—"I'm busy, Just Go Ahead and Lynch Him." Along with other phrases, this will go down in history as one of the most notable ever delivered, for it conveyed into the hands of a white mob of 500 people, the living form of Owen Flemming, well-to-do race man of this city, and made of him one more sacrifice upon the bloody altar of the reign of this country's uncrowned sovereign—"King Lynch 'Em."

Stepping through the first pages of the country's press with bloody hands and a hempen rope and with rifles, spitting forth a rain of death-dealing bullets, Phillips County, hot-bed of race riot outbreaks, the same infamous county which housed the Elaine debacle of October 1, 1919, and the same state which has prohibited the sale of Negro newspapers because they dare to publish the truth in regards to the outlawry and lawless murder gangs which patrol within their borders, had another banner day Wednesday.

Refused to Work

Flemming was killed early Wednesday morning, following the death of Roy Waters, a white plantation rider, who was acting as overseer on the J. H. Woods place. Flemming, considered wealthy, had refused to obey the mandate of Waters that he go down into the flooded district and help workers bring his mules out of the water. Flemming, knowing the danger of the undertaking, refused, and when Waters drew a gun to force his order, the lynched man wrested the gun from him and shot in self-defense.

Flemming was captured an hour after the killing and his body was literally riddled with bullets, it being estimated that more than 100 shots were fired. J. H. Woods, on whose place Flemming was mobbed, phoned to the sheriff, J. D. Mays of Helena, Ark., and told him that they had caught the "nigger" who had killed (Mr.) Waters.

"Come on down and get him," Woods is alleged to have told the sheriff, and received as an answer the following sentence:

"I'm busy, just go ahead and lynch him.'

Conditions Deplorable

When the Mississippi flooded the lands surrounding Helena, about ten thousand refugees were brought to Helena and cared for by the Red Cross, assisted by the leading colored citizens of the town. Many of these refugees were without money, food or clothing. They were given food and clothing by the Red Cross and colored citizens of the city of Helena, but they all wanted work so that they could earn money, with which to leave this hell-hole. These people were in concentration camps, guarded by white soldiers, and not allowed to work to earn money. On the other hand, the sheriff and chief of police, gave their deputies (all white) orders to arrest every colored man on the streets and force them to go down and work on the levee without pay. Many of the business men, doctors and leading preachers were forced to go down on levee to work and not allowed to change their clothing and put on working clothing. They were forced to work without food and at the point of a shot gun. None of the white business men, nor professional men, were forced to do anything on the levee, although some of them volunteered to go down and help force the Negroes to work with the aid of a shot gun. In some cases white policemen went to the homes of Negroes late in the night, broke open their doors and forced to go out and work on the levee. On night two policemen went in a section of Helena occupied altogether by Negroes and called Walker levee addition. Here they invaded a Negro church while the preacher was praying and before he could end his prayer, the police commanded all the men to throw their hands, marched them out of the church and carried them down on the levee to work.

The water is now rising again, and many of the leading business men are p[illegible]ing to leave Helena before they are again forced to leave their place of business and go down on the levee to work without pay. Helena and the surrounding territory has been on the decline every since the Elaine riot, and it is still on the decline. Mellwood, is about five miles south of Elaine, so one can plainly see that the Elaine spirit still exists all over the entire Philips county.

N. Y. WORLD

AUG 27 1927

LYNCHING IN ARKANSAS

Mob Takes From Sheriff Negro Accused of Attacking Woman

WILMOT, Ark., Aug. 26 (A. P.)—Less than eight hours after he was alleged to have attacked a young married woman at her home here, early yesterday, Winston Pounds, twenty-year-old Negro, was taken from a posse of deputy sheriffs and hanged to a tree one and a half miles from Wilmot. Her husband was in Little Rock, and a sister, spending the night with her, aroused neighbors. The Negro fled to the woods.

Traced by bloodhounds he surrendered to Sheriff John Riley and a posse without a struggle.

Early last night, while the Sheriff was preparing to take him to Hamburg, the county seat, he left the Negro in charge of some deputies in front of a garage for a few minutes. A mob of about fifty men drove up, covered the deputies with guns, forced the Negro into an automobile and drove away. Early to-day no arrests had been made.

BROOKLYN EAGLE

AUG 26 1927

Negro Youth Is Lynched; Was Taken From Office

Wilmot, Ark., Aug. 26 (AP)—Less than eight hours after he was alleged to have attacked a young married woman here, Winston Pounds, 20, a negro, was taken from a posse of deputy sheriffs and hanged to a tree 1½ miles from Wilmot.

After the attack, bloodhounds took up a trail which led Sheriff John Riley and a posse of deputies to the negro's hiding place. Captured without a struggle, the prisoner was brought back here and the Sheriff was preparing to take him to Hamburg the county seat. He left the negro in charge of deputy sheriffs in front of a garage and stepped inside for a few minutes, according to reports.

N. Y. SUN

AUG 26 1927

Negro Lynched by Mob In Arkansas

WILMOT, Ark., Aug. 26 (A. P.).—Less than eight hours after he was alleged to have attacked a young married woman here, Winston Pounds, twenty-year-old negro, was taken from a posse of deputy sheriffs and hanged to a tree.

The negro was alleged to have attacked the woman yesterday at her home. Her husband was in Little Rock and a sister, spending the night with her, aroused neighbors. The negro fled to the woods where bloodhounds took up a trail which led the sheriff and a posse to the negro's hiding place.

The prisoner was brought back here and when the sheriff stepped into a garage for a few minutes a mob of less than fifty men drove up to the garage, covered the deputies with guns and forced the negro into an automobile. They drove a mile and a half into the country and the negro was hanged to a tree.

N. Y. EVE. POST

AUG 26 1927

PRISONER LYNCHED BY ARKANSAS MOB

Suspect in Assault Case Taken From Posse and Hanged to Tree—None Caught

Wilmot, Ark., Aug. 26 (AP).—Less than eight hours after he was [illegible]ged to have attacked a young married woman here Winston Pounds, twenty-year-old negro, was taken from a posse of deputy sheriffs and hanged to a tree, one and a half miles from Wilmot.

Bloodhounds took up a trail which led Sheriff John Riley and a posse of deputies to the negro's hiding place. Captured without a struggle the prisoner was brought here and left in charge of deputy sheriffs while the sheriff stepped inside a garage for a few minutes, according to reports. A mob of more than fifty men overpowered the deputies and forced the negro into an automobile. They drove a mile and a half into the country and the negro was hanged to a tree. The officers say they did not recognize any members of the mob and early today no arrests had been made.

SHERIFF AND ARKANSAS MOB LYNCH YOUTH

Body Is Left to Hang From Tree

Wilmot, Ark., Sept. 2.—The bloodthirsty southerners of this section forgot their promises to restrain from mob violence after the recent Little Rock atrocities last Thursday, and lynched Winston Pounds, Jr., 23, on an alleged charge of attacking a young girl.

9-3-27

Pounds peacefully surrendered himself to Sheriff John C. Riley and his deputies last Thursday evening when the posse-mob was led to Pounds' home by bloodhounds brought here from Mississippi. It is alleged that while the sheriff was discussing with his deputies and business men plans for getting the youth out of town to avert mob violence, two or three men jumped into the automobile containing Pounds and sped away. The prisoner and the car had been left unprotected while the officers were in conference, it is alleged. Others stated that the sheriff went into a garage to "talk" to the owner of the bloodhounds and that a mob of 50 men surroundede the deputies with drawn guns and forced Pounds into one of their cars. The sheriff said later that he attempted to catch the mob but that he was "unable to find in which direction the prisoner had been taken."

Leave Body On Tree

Soon after Pounds had been taken from the car at the place which apparently had been agreed upon as the lynching point, several other cars drove up. A rope was thrown over a limb of a tree near the bank of Bayou Barthomew, one end having been tied around Pounds' neck, and the youth raised several feet from the ground. The mob, after enjoying the savagery for several hours, left the body suspended from the tree.

The body was left hanging to the tree until Friday, when it was cut down by R. C. Wells (white), a member of the coroner's jury, who said he cut it down because he "happened to have a pocket knife handy." At the inquest held here no witnesses were called or examined and the jury returned a verdict stating that Pounds "came to his death at the hands of unknown parties." Circuit Judge Turner Butler, who is holding court in Hamburg, said that he had not been officially notified of the lynching and he did not contemplate calling for any investigation.

ARKANSAS MOB LYNCHES YOUTH

Youth Accused Of "Usual Crime," But Evidence Is Hazy

(Staff Correspondent)

Wilmot, Ark., August 31.—A victim of hazy circumstances, Winston Pound, aged 20, son of a sharecropper near here, was taken into custody Thursday night by Sheriff John Riley, white, after an alleged attempt to attack a white woman. An hour later, a waiting mob hanged the youth to a tree, riddling his body with bullets.

The Pound youth, well liked here, was charged with having entered the premises Wednesday night, of Joe McGarry, white planter, while he and his wife were sleeping. The woman is said to have been awakened by a rumbling in an adjoining room, the kitchen.

Put Bloodhounds on Trail

The woman cried out, expressing fear that someone was intending to rape her. Having been to the man's house earlier in the night to see McGarry about a piece of work to be finished the following day, a general alarm was sounded, bloodhounds were taken to the McGarry home and put on the suspect's trail. A mob was formed immediately, and, aided by a pack of bloodhounds, a hectic manhunt ensued. After scouring the neighborhood for several hours, attempting to force colored men to admit to the prowling, a suggestion was made to look up young Pound, who was at home with his parents.

Going to the Pound home, the young man was ejected from his bed, and, in his night clothes, hurried here. Upon their arrival to this town, an immense mob of bloodthirsty hoodlums had gathered, awaiting the coming of the "peace" officers and "citizens."

Mob Stops to Eat

The youth was chained in the rear of one of the general stores here, while his captors "took a bite to eat." After a pause of several moments, the trouble makers loaded in automobiles, took the youth about a half mile up the public highway, on Bayou Bartholomew, where a rope was fastened around his neck. Stationing themselves a few yards from the dangling body, the maniacs for more than thirty minutes fired loads and loads of buckshot and bullets into the swinging form.

Apparently satisfied with their job, the maddened whites left the scene, the corpse dripping with blood, being left in the tree where passing motorists gazed on. The body dangled from the tree several days. When a group of colored men asked the whites permission to remove the body, they claim they were ordered to "mind your own d——business."

The seizure of young Pound and his subsequent lynching are the brutal climax of a series of dastardy and cowardly acts perpetrated in this little agricultural community, which have been in process for a number of years.

It was generally hoped by race citizens, owning land here, that the Mississippi backwaters would check the white terrorists, rehabilitation work is now going on, but it only seems to have given momentum to an already nerve wrecking situation.

Considerable unrest was created here among our people, scores having already made plans to move farther north. No arrests have been made, nor are any expected.

No Arrests Made

An inquest into the death of Winston Pounds, Jr., who was lynched near here Thursday night was held here today. The body left hanging to a tree, by the mobbists, was cut down late Saturday by a member of the coroner's jury. No arrests have been made and there is no indication that there will be any.

LYNCH NEGRO FOR ATTACK ON WOMAN

Arkansas Mob Takes Youth From Hands of Posse at Wilmot After Midnight Crime

WILMONT, ARK., Aug. 25.—(AP)—Less than eight hours after he was alleged to have attacked a young married woman here, Winston Pounds, 20-year-old negro, was taken from a posse of deputy sheriffs and hanged to a tree, 6½ and a half miles from Wilmot.

The negro was alleged to have attacked the woman at her home about 12:55 this morning. Her husband was in Little Rock and a sister, spending the night with her, aroused neighbors. The negro fled to the woods.

About dawn bloodhounds belonging to Bob Gant of Crystal Springs, Miss. arrived here and took up a trail which led Sheriff John Riley and a posse of deputies to his hiding place two hours later.

The negro was captured without a struggle and was returned here about noon. Early tonight Sheriff Riley was preparing to take the negro to Hamburg, the county seat, when the negro in charge of some deputy sheriffs, in front of a garage and stepped inside the garage to settle with Gant for the dogs, according to reports.

While the sheriff was inside a mob drove up in front of the garage, covered the deputies with guns and forced the negro into an automobile, the officers said. They drove a mile and a half into the country and hanged the negro to a tree.

Officers say they did not recognize any members of the mob and late tonight no arrests had been made.

that Sheriff Riley had returned to the county seat and that there was no excitement in the small village. According to reports, the mob, composed of a half dozen determined men, slipped the accused black away from the officer by resorting to a ruse and conducted the lynching with quiet, businesslike formality. The sheriff is reported to have made an attempt to overtake the lynchers, but arrived in time to find the negro's lifeless body hanging to a limb.

Sheriff in Circuit Court.

Sheriff Riley was reported at Hamburg this morning, attending circuit court, which is in session there, and was unable to be reached by telephone. Deputies said that no plans had been announced for an attempt to apprehend the mobbers.

The black is alleged to have attempted the assault Wednesday night. Bloodhounds were put on the trail and led the officers to Pounds who was working in a field two miles from the scene of the alleged assault attempt, according to reports. The small mob gathered and while the sheriff and his deputies conferred with the owner of the bloodhounds inside a small building, the men put the handcuffed black in an automobile and sped away to the woods. The body was found hanging to the limb of a tree on the edge of a bayou.

ed whites and whisked off in an automobile.

Dies Horrible Death

When located again Pounds, Jr. was found hanging from a tree at a point about a mile and a half north of Wilmot. Indications were that he had died a painful death. A rope had been thrown across the limb of a tree near the banks of the Bayou Bartholomew, one end having been tied around Pound Jr's. neck and the victim raised but a few feet off the ground. Pound's neck was not broken, he died from strangulation.

The body of the lynched youth hung from the tree until broad daylight, no efforts being made to remove it. The coroner cut the body down and pronounced Pounds had met death at the hands of parties unknown.

No Arrests Made

No arrests were made in connection with the lynching. Sheriff Riley denied careless in duties in leaving his prisoner unguarded saying that he left Pounds for a few minutes to discuss with his deputies and business men plans to get him out of town to avert mob violence and that his prisoner was seized before he knew it. However, many persons were inclined to believe that the seizure of Pounds by the mob was premeditated.

Thought It Was A Negro

When questioned, the woman that made the accusation that led to death of the innocent youth, Birdie McQuire, said that she was not sure that she saw a Negro in her room. She said she and her husband were awaken by some moving about in her room and that she became frighten and screamed. She said she thought there was a Negro in the room.

Pounds and his father, Tom Pounds, had worked on the McGuire farm for a number of years. Neither had a bad reputation, and both were well known here.

Arkansas Mob Hangs Young Negro To Tree

Wilmot, Ark.—Winston Pounds, 20 years old, was seized by a mob of fifty whites and hanged to a tree about a mile and a half out in the country after he had been brought here by the sheriff and his deputies charged with having assaulted a young white married woman on Thursday night, August 25.

The woman's husband was in Little Rock, and her sister was spending the night with her. The sister gave the alarm and bloodhounds were used to trail the suspect. The sheriff, after arresting Pounds and bringing him back to Wilmot, left his prisoner in charge of a deputy and went into a garage.

Then the armed mob rode up covered the deputy with guns forced the prisoner into an automobile and drove off.

SEEK MOB MEMBERS WHO LYNCHED NEGRO

Ashley Black Was Taken From Officers After Attack.

EL DORADO, Ark., Aug. 26.—(AP)—No arrests have been made in connection with the lynching of Winston Pounds, a 20-year-old negro farm hand, of near Wilmot, Ashley County, who was taken from Sheriff John Riley and hanged to a tree a mile south of Wilmot by a mob about 8 o'clock last night, according to reports from Wilmot and Hamburg this morning. The black was charged with attempted assault on Mrs. Joe McCary, young Wilmot woman.

Wilmot correspondents reported

Pleas of Victim and Denial Of Guilt Fail To Stop Fiends. Woman Admits She Is Not Sure a Negro Was In Her Room

(Special to the St. Louis Argus)

WILMOT, Ark., Aug. 31. —An innocent colored citizen was lynched by a mob Thursday night near here after a report had been circulated that a white woman in the community had been frightened by a prowler who entered her bedroom window and who the woman said looked like a "Negro".

Denies Guilt

Suspicion fell upon Winston Pounds, Jr. 23 years old who was employed on the farm of the white woman. Officers went to his home and aroused him from his bed and made him accompany them after he had denied all guilt in connection with frightening the white woman.

Left Unguarded

Presumably the officers were going to question Pounds further about the murder. Instead, however, they handcuffed their prisoner and drove him to Wilmot where they knew a highly incensed gang of white ruffians had gathered with no good intentions following the report of the frightening of the woman, and left him in the car unguarded. Within a few minutes the helpless Pounds, Jr., was seized by a gang of unmask-

Lynchings-1927
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2365

2365

NEW YORK TIMES
MAY 5 1927

LITTLE ROCK MOB LYNCHES A NEGRO

Drags Body Through Street Behind Auto and Burns It in Colored Quarter.

MILITIA SENT TO SCENE

Youth Alleged to Have Confessed Attack on White Woman and Her Daughter.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., May 4 (AP).—The body of a negro who had been hanged and riddled with bullets for an attack upon a white woman and her daughter early today, tonight was dragged behind an automobile through the main street of the city and then saturated with gasoline and burned at one of the principal business corners in the negro section while thousands of persons looked on.

As the flames leaped into the air, the firing of guns mingled with the cries of women and children fleeing from the scene.

Negroes scattered as the mob dragged the body to the corner and made a bonfire of it.

Police, outnumbered, directed traffic which congested the streets for blocks around the scene.

The negro John Carter, aged 22, surrounded by a mob numbering several thousand men, who found his in a tree after an all day search, confessed that he had attacked Mrs. B. E. Stewart and her 17-year-old daughter Glennie, with an iron bar as they rode along the road near the city in a wagon early today.

The mob sent for Miss Stewart and waited for her to arrive. She was said to have identified him as the man who attacked her, after which Carter was led to a pole and a rope fastened about his neck.

Told to climb on top of an automobile, the negro tried, but was too frightened or too weak. He was then pushed atop the car and it was driven from under him. As the negro swung in the air he was riddled with bullets from a volley.

He head in bandages from the attack of the morning, Miss Stewart was said to have been within sight of the lynching.

FORT SMITH, Ark., May 4 (AP).—Governor John E. Martineau, who was in Fort Smith tonight, ordered Major Henry Friedman of the Arkansas National Guard to assume full charge of affairs in Little Rock tomorrow morning.

Major Friedman was instructed to call out all available guards in Little Rock and disperse any attempts at gatherings in the streets due to the lynching of a negro there.

Negro Hanged, Body Bullet Riddled and Burned in Arkansas

LITTLE ROCK, ARK., May 4.—(AP)—The body of a negro who had been hanged and riddled with bullets for an attack upon a white woman and her daughter, early today, tonight was dragged behind an automobile through the main streets of the city and then saturated with gasoline and burned at one of the business corners in the negro section, while thousands of persons looked on.

As the flames leaped high into the air the firing of guns mingled with the cries of women and children fleeing from the scene.

Negroes scattered as the mob, their loud cries echoing for blocks, dragged the body to the corner and made a huge bonfire of it.

Police, many times outnumbered and thus powerless to act, directed traffic which congested the streets for blocks around the scene.

STATE TROOPS GUARD AGAINST OUTBREAKS

Governor Orders Out Militia After Lynching of Negro In Arkansas

LITTLE ROCK, ARK., May 4.—State troops patrolled the streets of Little Rock tonight to prevent further outbreaks following the lynching of one negro, the threatened lynching of another, and the accidental wounding of a white boy during the indiscriminate firing by hundreds of armed persons who paraded through the city.

These followed scenes of tumult through the city, with armed crowds parading through the negro quarter and firing indiscriminately.

A negro was found [illegible] in the crowd and preparations were being made to lynch him when a white man pushed his way to the front denounced the mob and urged them to permit the negro to be taken to the city jail. His advice was heeded and the negro was rushed out of the crowd.

Governor Martineau, who was in Van Buren, ordered Major F. E. Fredeman, assistant adjutant general, to use all state troops available to break up the crowd and prevent further disturbances.

LYNCHING PYRE IS TAKEN FROM BETHEL CHURCH

Little Rock, Mob Breaks Into Edifice; Uses Furnishings For Fire Wood

VICTIM'S BODY DRAGGED THRU COLORED SECTION

Baptist, Methodist Schools Warned To Keep Students Off Streets

LITTLE ROCK, Arkansas. (Special)—A mob of over 100 whites broke into Bethel A. M. E. Church Wednesday night and carried off benches, chairs and other furniture with which they burned John Carter to the stake.

The lynching took place at the intersection of Ninth and Broad streets, where the costly Bethel A. M. E. Church stands on one corner and the half-million dollar building of the Mosaic Templers on the other.

"This is a lesson to Negroes", members of the mob declared.

In addition to the furniture of Bethel, boxes, crates, old furniture secured from nearby homes and other trash was put upon Carter's body which was saturated with many gallons thousands of [illegible] and burned to a crisp women with babies in their arms watched the flames dwindle away.

Dead Man Demented

The man lynched was [illegible] a demented, escaped convict, charged with having attacked two white women a mile west of the city, Wednesday morning about nine.

Following the [illegible] 200 searchers with pistols and shot guns scoured the vicinity capturing Carter at the top of a tree about five o'clock.

College Students Warned

Long before this, it was fairly evident that a lynching would take place and word was sent by the authorities to Philander Smith College, an M. E. Institution and Arkansas Baptist College to keep their students indoors.

Mayor Meyer and Chief of Police Rotenberry could not be found during the reign of terror.

Police Aid Refused

The assistant of police Crow declined to permit Major Pitcock, chief of detectives to deputize 50 men and halt the mob.

Carter is the first man to be lynched in 36 years.

Once Carter was captured, the mob swung him up to a telephone pole and riddled his body with 250 bullets.

The mob now increased to 300, loaded him into an automobile and drove at high speed through the city, through 14th street to the colored section.

Body Dragged Thru Streets

Before reaching Bethel Church at West Ninth street, they took the corpse from the front end of the car tying him to the rear end and dragged him through all the colored business district.

Keeping this up for an hour, the body was dragged up through the principal thoroughfares, pass the City Hall and back to Ninth and Broadway where the burning took place.

No better spot could have been selected in order to humiliate colored people, not only because of the proximity of Bethel Church, but because there has been considerable resentment by whites in town against the fact that colored people own property in the neighborhood, some of the best looking business houses in the city.

Templar Building

Mosaic Templars boast of over 200,000 members with assets of nearly $2,000,000 has a building here valued at quite half-million dollars.

Later at night with the lynching over, the mob ran riot through the colored business district terriorizing colored citizens, shooting shops, and breaking windows.

Aaron Christian, who got in the way of the crowd was badly beaten and at the hospital it is declared that he may die.

After all was over, national guardsmen ordered here by Governor Matineau, arrived and patrolled the streets for two days.

Second Demonstration

This is the second demonstration by a mob. Sunday night previously whites invaded the colored section seeking Lonnie Dixon, 15 year old half-breed, who confessed the murder of a white child.

On this occasion scores of leading citizens fled the city taking refuge in Hot Springs, Pine Bluff and other nearby towns.

Because of this exodus no concensus of colored opinion could be obtained on the situation. Those who remained in the city would not permit themselves to be quoted.

The amount of damage done to Bethel Church could not be ascertained. It is said to have been considerable.

NEGRO LYNCHED AFTER ATTACK ON MOTHER, GIRL, 17

Little Rock, Ark., May 4.—(AP)—An unidentified Negro was lynched late today on the 19th street pike after an all day search for a Negro who is said to have attacked and seriously injured Mrs. B. E. Stewart and her 17 year old daughter, Glennie. The Negro was shot to death.

NEGRO IS HANGED AND BODY BURNED

Little Rock, Ark., May 4.—(AP)—Troops of the Arkansas national guard were ordered out by Governor Martineau tonight to prevent further trouble in Little Rock following the lynching and burning of a negro who earlier today had attacked two white women.

In a telephone conversation with Major F. E. Fredeman, assistant adjutant general, the governor ordered that all state troops available be utilized to prevent a threatened outbreak of race trouble.

Lynching of another negro tonight was threatened when he was found armed in a huge crowd which congregated in the negro section where the body of John Carter, 22, negro, was dragged and burned after he had been hanged in the woods near the city.

When the negro was discovered in the crowd and found to be armed, cries went up to hang him, but he was rescued and taken to the city jail for safe keeping.

One national guard company already has been mobilized by Major Fredeman in preparation for any emergency when the governor notified him to use troops to quell any further disturbance.

A negro was shot and seriously wounded by an unidentified member of the crowd parading through the negro section.

He was rushed to the hospital.

All national guardsmen, sheriff's deputies and police available were called on duty tonight in an effort to break up the threatening crowds which were parading through the streets.

The lynching followed closely other threats of mob violence, the latter made toward Lonnie Dixon, 16-year-old negro, who confessed that he attacked and slew a 12-year-old girl in a church belfry here.

For three days and three nights men sought Dixon who had been secretly removed to another jail. The first mob formed last Sunday night and stormed the state penitentiary when the warden refused to open the steel gates. Firing guns into the air, the crowd rushed into the prison and searched without avail. Next, the city jail was visited and afterward a smaller crowd took automobiles and visited jails in three nearby towns.

NEGRO CLUB WIELDER IS STRUNG UP ON POLE

Angry Little Rock Mob Captures Assailant in Tree.

WOMEN VICTIMS INJURED

John Carter, 22, Used Club on Women Riding in Wagon—Mob Takes Him From Officers and Drag Body Through Streets.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., May 4—(AP).—Less than eight hours after he attacked a white woman and her 17-year-old daughter with an iron club, John Carter, 22, negro, was hanged from a telephone post near town by a mob of 300 men.

His body was then riddled with bullets.

The negro is said to have admitted the attack before he was identified by the victim.

After the lynching the body was dragged down Main Street behind an automobile, while some dozen cars trailed the leader with horns blowing. The street was crowded with office people going home at approximately 6:30 o'clock.

The body was burned at Ninth and Broadway, approximately eight blocks from the business section, shortly after 7 o'clock.

Police Are Powerless.

As the flames leaped high into the air the firing of guns mingled with the cries of women and children fleeing from the scene.

Negroes scattered as the mob, their loud cries echoing for blocks, dragged the body to the corner and made a huge bonfire of it.

Police, many times outnumbered and powerless to act, directed traffic which congested the streets for blocks around the scene.

The negro, surrounded by a mob numbering several thousand men, who found him in a tree after an all-day search, confessed that he had attacked Mrs. B. E. Stewart and her 17-year old daughter, Glennie, with an iron bar as they rode along the road near the city in a wagon early today.

Miss Stewart stood 30 feet from the pole, her head in bandages, and watched the negro hanged and then riddled with bullets. She identified him.

Though police were on the scene when the negro was found spectators said that only one officer sought to take charge of the negro after the crowd gathered.

Identified by Victim.

He was a deputy sheriff and after Carter confessed having struck the women, he said, "All right, boys, let's take him to town."

One of the leaders of the crowd with a gun replied that the negro was not going to town. After this no effort was made to take charge of the negro.

The mob sent for Miss Stewart and sat down to wait until she arrived to identify the negro. During the interim the negro asked for water and a cigarette. Two men got well water for him and gave him a cigarette.

When the girl arrived she identified the negro without hesitation. She was then led back to a point about 30 feet from the telephone pole.

Carter was then led to the pole and a rope fastened about his neck.

The rope was not long enough to reach the top of the pole and a chain was fastened to the end of it.

Carter was then told to climb up on top of an automobile. This he started to do but his knees gave way and the crowd pushed him to the top of the car. The car was then driven from under him.

Leaders of the crowd then ordered those with guns to step into the front so as not to wound any of the crowd. Then they began firing shots into thestruggling body.

City Already Stirred.

The lynching followed three days and nights of threatened mob action during which 100 heavily armed police have been guarding the city hall an dhomes of city officials. The first mob formed after the confession of Lonnie Dixon, aged 16, that he had assaulted and murdered little Floella McDonald, 12, and left her body i nthe belfry of the fashionable First Presbyterian Church.

A mob of several hundred stormed the penitentiary, firing shots through the office, then threatened the city jail and even threatened mob violence to Chief of Police B. C. Rotenberry. On the following night another mob formed and again searched the city jail and the penitentiary, although the negro had been removed from the city. Last night a smaller crowd again threatened the city hall and police were kept on hand ofr any emergency. Police today ordered a special consignment of ammunition for immediate use, fearing race trouble.

MOB BURNS MAN'S BODY IN LITTLE ROCK STREET

Police Direct Traffic as Shots Are Fired and Women and Children Scream.

TROOPS ARE MOBILIZED

Little Rock, Ark., May 4 (By A. P.). The body of a negro who had been hanged and riddled with bullets after an attack upon a white woman and her daughter early today, tonight was dragged behind an automobile through the main street of the city and then saturated with gasoline and burned at one of the principal business corners in the negro section while thousands of persons looked on.

National guard troops, with one company already mobilized, were held in readiness tonight awaiting orders from Gov. Martineau should race trouble result from the lynching.

Lynching of another negro tonight was threatened when he was found armed in the huge crowd which congregated where the body of Carter was burned. When the negro was discovered in the crowd and found to be armed, cries went up to hang him, but he was rescued and taken to the city jail for safe keeping.

A negro was shot and seriously wounded by an unidentified member of the crowd parading through the negro section. He was rushed to the hospital.

All national guardsmen, sheriffs, deputies and police available were called on duty tonight in an effort to break up the threatening crowds which were parading through the streets.

As the flames leaped into the air about the body of Carter the firing of guns mingled with the cries of women and children fleeing from the scene. Negroes scattered as the mob dragged the body to the corner and made a bonfire of it.

Police, outnumbered, directed traffic which congested the streets for blocks around the scene.

The negro, John Carter, 22, was surrounded by a mob numbering several thousand men, who found him in a tree after an all-day search. He confessed that he had attacked Mrs. B. E. Stewart and her 17-year-old daughter Glennie with an iron bar as they rode along the road near the city in a wagon early today

Miss Stewart, her head in bandages, was said to have identified the negro at the scene of the lynching.

Told to climb on top of an automobile, the negro tried but was too frightened or weak. He was then pushed atop the car and it was driven from under him. As the negro swung in the air he was riddled with bullets from a volley.

Miss Stewart was said to have been within sight of the lynching.

Feeling around here over the murder of 12-year-old Floella McDonald by a young negro was further intensified by the attack today. The mother, Mrs. B. E. Stewart, was taken to a hospital suffering from a blow over the head and a broken arm. The girl, Glennie 17, was only slightly injured. The negro fled into the woods when an automobile approached.

NEW YORK
SUN and GLOBE
MAY 5 1927

LYNCHERS BURN NEGRO'S BODY ON FUNERAL PYRE

Little Rock Mob First Hangs White Women's Assailant to Telephone Pole.

MILITIA ON GUARD THERE

Thousands See the Bullet-Riddled Remains of Victim Dragged Through Town.

LITTLE ROCK, May 5 (A. P.).—The sight of militiamen standing guard on important street corners with fixed bayonets greeted residents of Little Rock to-day, following a night of disorder during which a negro was lynched, his body dragged through the business section and burned upon a funeral pyre while several thousand persons looked on.

Fear of additional serious racial trouble caused Gov. Martineau to order out a National Guard company for all-night patrol duty. He hurried here on a special train from Van Buren, where yesterday he attended a strawberry festival.

By midnight, after hundreds of armed men had paraded the streets in automobiles, firing volley after volley of shots into the air, the National Guard had virtually cleared the streets and gained control of the situation.

The Governor acted when informed that local authorities were standing by helplessly while angry men invaded a negro quarter and a general outbreak of violence was threatened.

Lynch Negro.

The negro lynched was John Carter, 38 years old. He was said to have admitted that he attacked two white women early yesterday.

One of the women, Miss Glennie Stewart, identified him and saw him killed. Her mother, Mrs. B. E. Stewart, was in a hospital suffering from injuries inflicted by the negro with an iron bar. Carter had attacked them after accosting them as they rode along the road near the city in a wagon.

The mob, together with posses of officers, pursued Carter into a forest and captured him. The mob, numbering several hundred persons, then took charge of the negro, hanged him from a telephone pole, riddled the body with bullets, cut it down and tied it behind an automobile, which dragged it through the principal business thoroughfares.

It was later saturated with gasoline and burned in a street bordering on the negro section.

Armed Negro Attacked.

Another negro, Arn Christian, was found armed in a crowd in the negro district and was attacked. He was finally rescued and removed to a hospital.

Robert Love, a white youth, was struck by one of the many bullets fired at random by the mob. His injury was slight.

Gov. Martineau expressed the belief that no further outbreaks would result.

The lynching of Carter followed three days of intense feeling aroused over the murder of twelve-year-old Floella McDonald by a sixteen-year-old negro, Lonnie Dixon. Efforts were made both Sunday and Monday nights by a mob to find Dixon, but he had been spirited out of the city. The angry men searched several jails and the State Penitentiary before abandoning the hunt.

Arkansas Lynches Another.

HELENA, Ark., June 16—(ANP) Owen Fleming was shot to death by a possee of two hundred whites, near here early Wednesday morning. Fleming was charged with killing a white man named Roy Walters and farm over-seer.

According to reports, the white man had sent for Fleming to help move refugees back to their farms and Fleming sent word to him that he was sick. Angered by the message sent him, Walters went to Fleming's home and attempted to force him to come with him. Fleming fearing that he would be killed, shot Walters killing him instantly. Following the report of the killing, a posse formed and went in search of Fleming and when they surrounded him near his home they riddled his body with bullets.

Lynchings-1927
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Gazette

Arkansas.

2366

LITTLE ROCK
ARKANSAS

AUG 26 1927

NEGRO IS LYNCHED BY MOB AT WILMOT

Is Taken From Sheriff and Hanged to Tree Near Town.

NO ARRESTS ARE MADE

Victim Admits Entering Home Planning to Attack First White Woman He Found.

Special to the Gazette.

Wilmot, Aug. 25.—Winston Pounds Jr., negro farmhand, aged about 23, was lynched by a party of 15 or 20 white men at a point about one and a half miles north of Wilmot at 8:30 tonight. A short time before the negro was put to death, he had confessed entering the home of Joe McGarry a midnight with the object of attacking "the first white woman I found."

Pounds was arrested about 2 p. m. today at his home near town after bloodhounds obtained from Mississippi had picked up a trail at the McGarry home and followed it to Pounds' home. Sheriff John C. Riley took the negro in custody and, while discussing with his deputies and several business men plans for getting Pounds out of town to avert mob violence, two or three men jumped into the sheriff's automobile and sped away. The officer had parked his car in front of a garage on the main street of the town. It had been left unguarded while the officers were in conference, it is said.

Sheriff Is Distanced.

When Sheriff Riley learned that the prisoner had been kidnaped, he commandeered another automobile and gave chase, but was unable to overtake the car bearing the negro to his doom.

Soon after the negro had been taken from the car at the place which apparently had been agreed upon as the lynching point, several other cars drove up.

A rope was thrown over a limb of a tree near the bank of Bayou Bartholomew, one end having been tied around Pounds' neck, and the negro raised several feet from the ground. Even before the negro was dead, it was reported, all members of the mob had left the scene.

Pounds died from strangulation, not a shot having been fired into his body.

Late tonight the negro's body still was dangling, no efforts having been made to bring it down. A coroner's inquest probably will be held here tomorrow afternoon.

Prowler Frightened Away.

Mr. and Mrs. McGarry were asleep when the negro entered their home. Mrs. McGarry was awakened by the prowler, and immediately screamed, frightening the prowler away. He had entered through a window.

Officers were notified this morning, and began a search for the prowler. The bloodhounds arrived here about 2 this afternoon and were taken to the McGarry home. They immediately picked up a trail which they followed to Hounds' home.

Although the lynching created considerable excitement in Wilmot, the streets practically were deserted by 10 tonight. No further trouble is expected.

Propaganda Against Al Smith Opposed by Harrison.

Gulfport, Miss., Aug. 25.—(AP)—Senator Pat Harrison favors an uninstructed Mississippi delegation to the 1928 national Democratic convention.

Replying to a communication addressed him by the Ku Klux Klan asking if he would favor a delegation instructed against Gov. Alfred E. Smith, Senator Harrison replied today that he would oppose such instructions, that he had expressed no preference for any of the Democratic presidential possibilities, and that he believed the delegation should be left free to deal with situations as they arise.

The Klan telegram, sent to the senator several days ago by Fred E. Wankan, grand dragon of the realm of Mississippi, said:

"For your information, the Klan in Mississippi is unalterably opposed to Governor Smith, or any other wet, alien-controlled candidate that Tammany Hall or others may put up, sponsor, advocate or support. Tammany does not support any other brand of candidate or democracy. The Klan in Mississippi here and now places itself on record for an instructed delegation against Smith in 1928. In taking this position, the Klan does not attempt to speak for the democracy of the state, but believes that it at least expressed the sentiment of the democracy of Mississippi. The time has come when carpet-baggers and scalawags should be driven from the high councils of the party. In this, Mississippi hopes to count on her senior senator."

Senator Harrison replied:

"I favor an uninstructed delegation to the next Democratic national convention and am opposed to sending a delegation instructed against any candidate. So far as I know, no Democratic convention in Mississippi has ever followed such a course. Mississippi delegations have always at Democratic national conventions played an important part. Those delegations went uninstructed and have never failed to represent truly the viewpoint of Mississippi. If the next state Democratic convention is to instruct the delegates, then, in my opinion, it would be much better to instruct them for some candidate than against some candidate.

"Instructions only embarrass and affect the influence of the delegation in the convention. They should be left free to deal with situations as they arise in the convention so that they can act for the best interests of the party. Nothing should be done by the Democrats of Mississippi to alienate the friends of any candidate or weaken the party in the general election.

"There is not the slightest possibility of the Mississippi delegation voting in the next Democratic national convention for Gov. Al Smith. The sentiment of Mississippi is not for the nomination of Governor Smith and it is inconceivable that delegates to the convention would vote contrary to the sentiment and wishes of the state. It is my hope and prayer that by the time the next Democratic national convention convenes, differences within the party will have been harmonized and that we will then be able to give the nation a nominee upon whom all Democrats can agree and for whom we all enthusiastically battle."

Lynchings- 1927
Cases of.

Europe.

2369

Poles Lynch 2

WARSAW, Poland, Jan. 13.—Two men caught stealing horses were lynched today. They were thrown into a huge fire and burned to death. Twenty-eight persons have been arrested on suspicion of participation in the lynching.

Lynchings - 1927
Cases of.

Florida.

2370

LYNCHED MAN A FIGHTER

Jacksonville, Fla., Jan. 10, 1927—George Buddington, 55, shot to death and lynched by a mob for alleged attempt to extort a debt from a white woman at a pistol point, was really lynched because he administered a sound thrashing to a white man in a fist fight on the streets of Waldo a day before the lynching.

Florida Lynches Man as 1926 Comes to Close

GAINESVILLE, Fla., Jan. 3.—Breaking the lock of the City Jail at Waldo, twenty miles east of here, a party of unidentified men late Monday night took George Buddington, 55, several miles from the town and shot him to death. The body was found Tuesday by a tourist. A coroner's jury found that Buddington came to his death "at the hands of a party or parties unknown." 1-5-27

Buddington was arrested Monday on a charge of attempting to extort at pistol point an alleged debt from a Waldo white woman. Police said he was intoxicated.

Everglades Seminoles Hang Tribal Slayer; Execution of Doctor John Decreed by Elders

New York Times 2-2-27

Special to The New York Times.

MIAMI, Fla., Feb. 1.—The inexorable law of the Seminoles, "an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth," has taken its course and Doctor John, venerable member of the Lower East Coast Miccosukies, has paid with his life for the slaying of Little Billie.

For years Doctor John had been known as a hunter with few equals and an Indian without enemies. When the September hurricane destroyed the Musa Isle camp, he was one of the first to volunteer help in rebuilding it.

Then came a Seminole celebration near Deep Lake in Big Cypress swamp in Collier County. Wyomee ran freely and Doctor John became quarrelsome. Suddenly enraged over some incident he struck Little Billie over the head with a club and killed him. This was on Oct. 25.

Awaiting trial, Doctor John sat alone for weeks on a palmetto mat in an isolated Everglades camp. A verdict was not expected until June, when the braves will assemble at the former camp of Old John Billie, father of Little Billie, after the Spring hunt and planting season, but later it was decided that the delay would be too long.

Elders of the tribe, including relatives of both Little Billie and Doctor John, were called to decide upon the punishment. Only two penalties for murder are provided, according to Seminole tradition, and death is regarded as preferable to the alternative, ordered in rare cases, of exile for fifty-three moons, or four years, among northern tribes. In the case of Doctor John, almost as old as his victim, the 80-year-old Cor-na-pat-chee, as Little Billie was known to the Seminoles, exile was regarded as slow death and execution was ordered.

Rumors were heard that Charlie Tigertail, designated as executioner, had shot Doctor John. These reports, however, were denied today at Musa Isle camp, when the verdict was revealed for the first time by authorized spokesmen for the Seminoles. Death was by hanging, the braves say. The names of the judges and the time and place of execution are never told, according to tradition.

"We like Doctor John, yes," one of the braves is quoted as saying; "but we like Little Billie, too. He kill Little Billie. We kill him."

Lynchings-1927
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Kentucky - Virginia.

2371

KENTUCKY MOBS SHOOT THREE TO DEATH IN A WEEK

Feeling Reported Running High And Many Families Are Being Threatened

JACKSON, KY., Dec. 7.—Colored families in this vicinity have been threatened following the killing of two unidentified youths last Thursday at the hands of a mob. Meagre dispatches revealed also that a third youth was seriously wounded but escaped.

Witnesses say that the youthful trio were evidently celebrating Thanksgiving, and as they alighted from a train became boisterous. One of them brushed into a Caucasian. A fight started and scores of farmers rushed to the rescue of the Negroes. The youths threw up a barricade of logs and for more than an hour held the mob at bay. Two of the mob members will probably die of wounds received in the encounter. Two of the young men were captured by the rioters headed by Harold Deaton, depot agent and Jasper Thompson, after their ammunition had been exhausted.

Another Murdered By Mob

Tuesday Leonard Woods was the 4th man to die at the hands of a mob in this state when he was seized and murdered by a band of 1,000 armed men and women, one-third of whom were masked. He was taken from the Pittsburgh jail, which is in charge of a woman sheriff.

Woods was confined in the jail after he shot and killed Hershel Deaton, a mine foreman. The foreman, according to Woods, had insulted two colored women, Anna May Emory and Susan Armister. He declared he defended them and shot Deaton in self defense He stated further that he surrendered anticipating a fair and impartial trial.

Sheriffs Flee

After the word was received that a mob had been formed, the sheriff and her deputies fled from the jail which is surrounded by a large iron fence. The mob first attemted to blast the locks by means of a high-powered rifle. They finally succeeded in gaining entrance to the place. They found the two [illegible] in custody first Morris

they had one of the Caucasian prisoners point out Woods to them. They then placed a chain around the neck of their intended victim and were about to take the two women also, but relented when Woods earnestly declared that neither of them had participated in the shooting of the mine foreman.

Woods, heavily manacled, was led to an auto and taken to Pine Mountain There, upon a newly constructed platform to be used in the dedication of the newly completed Kentucky-Virginia highway, the doomed man was chained. Denying his guilt and pleading in vain for mercy, Woods fell lifeless as a volley of a hundred guns thundered at the command "fire" given by the as yet unidentified mob leader.

MOB STORMS JAIL TO CAPTURE NEGRO

Whitesburg, Ky., November 29.—(AP)—Leonard Woods, negro slayer of a white man, was removed from jail by a mob here tonight. He was taken away in an automobile in the direction of Jenkins, the scene of the crime. A lynching was believed certain to take place. Jenkins is more than 30 miles from here.

Two negro women who were accompanying Woods when he slew a mine foreman were not molested by the mob. Entrance was gained to the jail by battering in a door. Efforts of a jailer to cause the mob to disperse were futile. No other officers were present.

NEGRO MURDERER IS LYNCHED IN VIRGINIA

Mob Removes Negro Slayer From Kentucky Jail, Lynches Him On State Line

JENKINS, KY., Nov. 30.—(AP)—Leonard Woods, 35-year-old negro slayer, was lynched on Virginia soil by a mob composed largely of Virginians, Harry L. Moore, county attorney of Letcher County, Ky., said here tonight after an investigation.

Woods was removed from the county jail at Whitesburg shortly after midnight and taken to the Virginia-Kentucky line, where he was lynched for killing Hershel Deaton, [illegible] of Wise County, Virginia. Deaton was employed as a mine foreman at Fleming, Ky.

Following submission of his report to Gov. William J. Fields, at Frankfort, probably tomorrow, Mr. Moore said it would be "entirely proper" and in keeping with custom for the governor to address a protest to Gov. Harry F. Byrd, of Virginia, asking for an investigation.

Sam H. Privitt, chief of police of Jenkins, corroborated Mr. Moore's statement that the mob was made up principally of Virginia citizens.

Virginia license plates were on a majority of the automobiles which formed the caravan that carried the negro from Whitesburg, through Jenkins to the scene of the lynching at Pound Gap, just across the Virginia line a few miles from here, Privitt said. Some were Kentucky cars and a few were from West Virginia.

The mob was composed of about 400 men when it stormed the Whitesburg jail and broke in through the roof, Mr Moore estimated. He said the building was damaged to the extent of between $500 and $600.

The negro man and two negro women were arrested Sunday and charged with slaying Deaton while the latter was en route from his home to the mine. It was charged that the trio became angry when Deaton refused to let them ride in his automobile and that one of the women handed Woods the revolver with which he shot Deaton. An examining trial, set for today, was forestalled by the lynching. The negro women were taken from the jail along with Woods but were returned, unharmed. They will be given an examining trial Monday on charges of aiding and abetting the slaying of Deaton; also a capital offense. Both protested their innocence, laying full blame on Woods.

Two young men, one of them W. M. Townsley, were in Deaton's car when he was killed. They will be the principal witnesses against the women.

Lynchings - 1927
Cases of:

Louisiana.

2372

ITEM
NEW ORLEANS, LA.

APR 29 1927

More Mobbery

THREE De Quincy citizens, one of them the city night marshal, and a deputy sheriff are indicted for murder in connection with the death of a negro who was taken from the city jail, beaten, and then shot in the back. Before he died in a Lake Charles sanitarium he pointed out, among a group of 10, two whom he claimed took him from the jail and the one who shot him. Trial of the three is set for May 5.

This was the first lynching to shame Louisiana in more than a year. The mere fact that those accused of the crime are indicted, encouraging though it is, will mean little unless the prosecution is thorough and determined, and unless the jury is willing to convict if the evidence warrants it. The prosecution should be thorough. This case is regrettable but it gives De Quincy citizens an opportunity to prove, as several other states have proved of late, by convictions of mob members, that Louisiana is determined to end the disgrace lynchings bring upon her.

Lynchings-1927 Mississippi. 2373

Cases of.

AN OPEN LETTER TO THE CANDIDATES FOR SHERIFF

Hattiesburg, Mississippi.
July 14, 1927.

Messrs Joe Gray, J. E. (Big) Gray, Ward Camp, J. Frank Williams, George W. Boone, J. C. (Lee) Martin, and Frank H. McKenzie, Candidates for Sheriff of Forrest County.

Gentlemen:— Hattiesburg American

Seven men have been murdered by Mississippi mobs within the past four months. Six of these victims were taken directly from the custody of Mississippi sheriffs or their deputies. In the case of the seventh, the accused was captured by a posse of citizens which took him from the sheriff and refused to give him up or to reveal his whereabouts until he had been put to death. In no instance did the sheriffs or their deputies use armed force to stand off these violators of the law. In one case a deputy sheriff shot into the air, then abjectly surrendered. 7-15-27

While these events were going on in Mississippi a courageous sheriff and his loyal deputies in Tampa Florida killed several attackers of their county jail rather than permit a mob to flout the majesty of the law. Between lynchings in Mississippi, a member of the Louisiana legislature presented bronze medals to Sheriff U. T. Downs and Jailer W. G. Penny of Concordia Parish for preventing the lynching of a prisoner at the risk of their own lives. About the same time that two men accused of murder were being burned to death at Louisville, Mississippi, the Governor of South Carolina was calling out troops upon request of two sheriffs to aid them in preventing mob violence in the Palmetto state, the governor having stated that there must be no lynchings in South Carolina. While these other states are putting an end to this unmixed evil, Mississippi's lynching record is reflecting adversely upon all law-abiding people. Hattiesburg, Miss.

Senator Pat Harrison and Congressmen Lowrey, Whittington, and Webber Wilson, have declared themselves unalterably opposed to mob murder and in recent signed statements given The Hattiesburg American in response to a request from the editor, have called upon the people of Mississippi to put an end to mob violence or prepare for Federal interference under the provisions of a Federal anti-lynching law.

You gentlemen aspire to the important office of sheriff of Forrest County. If elected and sworn, it becomes your statutory duty under Section 3099, Hemingway's Code "to keep the peace within the county . . . and to keep down affrays, riots, routs, and unlawful assemblages for which the sheriff may call to his aid the power of the county."

Section 3101 Hemingway's Code provides: "The sheriff shall have charge of the court house and jail and of the premises belonging thereto and he shall preserve the same from intruders and from trespassers and from injuries."

Section 3106 says: "If the jail be insufficient, or there be danger of the escape, LYNCHING, or rescue of any prisoner therein, or if there be no jail, the sheriff may summon a sufficient guard to secure his prisoner and to protect the jail so long as the same may be necessary."

Strict truth compels the statement that sheriffs in several Mississippi counties have failed dismally to perform these duties which they called Almighty God to witness that they would carry out. Hence the impelling necessity of securing from all candidates for this important office, a plain and unequivocal statement of their position, before the primary.

One of your number, Mr. J. C. (Lee) Martin has voluntarily published a statement of his position in the columns of The American. We are including him in this joint letter however in order to play no favorites and therefore respectfully request all candidates for sheriff, including Mr. Martin to answer these direct questions, either "Yes" or "No", and then add such comment as each candidate chooses to make. The editor of The American, one of the signers of this open letter, has agreed to publish all answers in equally prominent position on the front page, and it is hoped that all seven of the candidates will mail answers to Mr. Francis Harmon in time for their simultaneous publication Monday, July 18.

Here are the questions, to which, as residents of Forrest County, we believe ourselves entitled to a public answer:

1. If elected sheriff of Forrest County will you defend all prisoners in your custody, and preserve your jail from attack by a mob, at the risk of your own life, "shooting to kill" if necessary in order to perform fully your statutory duty?

2. Will you as sheriff, appoint only as your deputies, men who will go to the same lengths in defending an accused from mob attack, as in procuring his arrest?

3. On the day you take the oath as sheriff will you issue a signed letter to the people of Forrest County restating your position and warning the public that any attack on the majesty of the law by a mob will be resisted unhesitatingly with all the force necessary?

No reflection whatever on any candidate in this race is intended, either directly or indirectly. This letter's object is simply to secure a direct answer from each candidate so that intelligent voters may consider this important question in making up their minds.

Nor is there any implication that Forrest County is suffused with the mob spirit. Forrest County people have been neither better nor worse than the average in Mississippi. There have been lynchings in this county during the past twenty years as in far too many other Mississippi counties. There should never be another such unjustifiable murder either within our county or in Mississippi. This letter is written in a sincere effort to speed the coming of that great day when this foul blot shall be removed and due process of law be secure to every man accused of crime, no matter what that crime may be.

Awaiting your several replies with pleasure, we are,

Yours for a better and finer Forrest County,

F. S. HARMON,	DR. J. L. JOHNSON,
BEN S. DEVER,	B. D. MOORE,
JOSEPH A. SMITH,	F. W. FOOTE,
T. E. ROSS,	M. S. PICKETT
MRS. M. C. EATON,	MRS. J. L. JOHNSON,
R. G. WOOTON,	Mrs. H. S. Williams

WESTERN UNION

TELEGRAM

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT — GEORGE W. E. ATKINS, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

RECEIVED AT

Hattiesburg, Miss., 8:45 P. M., June 14, 1927

Hon. A. C. Anderson, Jackson, Miss.
Hon. Theo. G. Bilbo, Charleston, Miss.
Hon. Dennis Murphree, Aberdeen, Miss.
Hon. Sennett Conner, Fayette, Miss.

Six mob murders in Mississippi within two months, four of victims being burned to death plus attempted lynching of Jackson murderer within shadow of State Capitol, present serious threat to organized government (Stop) Through identical telegrams to all gubernatorial candidates am asking you wire Hattiesburg American collect whether if elected Governor you will call on Mississippians to end mob murders, urge sheriffs to resist attempts on jails with force, and call out National Guard pursuant statutory obligation (Stop) Please include answer to Tuesday's Commercial Appeal editorial asking your views as citizen on lynching and toward Winston County burning especially.

(Signed) FRANCIS HARMON, Editor.

56NS CY 54 Collect

Jackson, Miss., 9:28, June 15, 1927.

Francis Harmon,

Editor Hattiesburg American, Hattiesburg, Miss.

Mr. Anderson absent but we know his views. He is opposed to mob law or action. He believes any exercise of the functions of law without authority of the law is unlawful and that it is the duty of the Governor to use all lawful means to resist infraction of the law.

ANDERSON CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE.

952A

Messages identical in terms sent by wire to all candidates for Governor asking full expression of their views on mob murders represent The Hattiesburg American's latest contribution toward the cause of law and order in Mississippi. While special guards were protecting the Gulfport jail Tuesday night against rumored attack to prevent a seventh lynching within this state during the last sixty days, special telegrams from the editor's office here were being rushed to gubernatorial candidates at divergent points where they wer scheduled for addresses today, asking a definite commitment on this burning question.

The response from the Anderson Campaign Committee reached Hattiesburg at 9:52 this morning and definitely placed Hon. Albert C. Anderson on record as opposed to mob law.

Letters mailed to the Jackson managers of each of the four candidates for Governor by The American read as follows:

To the managers of the Anderson, Bilbo, Conner, and Murphree Campaign Headquarters, Jackson, Mississippi.

Gentlemen:

Enclosed please find identical copies of four identical telegrams sent to the four candidates at the addresses named requesting an immediate answer by wire collect. Each candidate was addressed at the point where he was listed to speak Wednesday except Mr. Anderson whose itinerary indicated that he would be in Jackson Wednesday morning.

I trust you will communicate directly with the canddiates whose cause you are espousing in order that all may have an equal chance to respond in time for simultaneous publication of the answers. Messages will be published immediately as received.

A copy of this telegram is being printed in Wednesday afternoon's issue of The American. Answers received up to 2:30 p. m. Wednesday will be printed along with the telegram from this newspaper.

In the light of the constitution and statutes of Mississippi The American feels that The Memphis Commercial Appeal is correct in assuming that no candidate for the high office of Governor countenances mob violence. At this time, however, definite expressions of opinion on the subject should have a constructive value which we are sure each of the four candidates will appreciate.

The same publicity will be given every answer regardless of its content, our desire being to serve our readers and the state.

Sincerely yours,
HATTIESBURG AMERICAN.
By F. S. Harmon, Editor.

Senators Get Telegram

Special wires have also been forwarded to both United States Senators from Mississippi and letters sent to the eight Congressmen from the Magnolia State asking for a definite expression of their views on this growing evil. Answers will be published as fast as received.

The six lynchings which have disgraced Mississippi since April 15th are as follows:

Sunday, June 13—Louisville, Winston county: Jim and Mark Fox accused of murder; taken from deputy sheriff W. S. Parmenter who "fired several shots into the air to frighten away the mob"; burned to death.

Wednesday, May 25—Bothwell, Greene county: Eddie Lively accused of "alleged misconduct with a white woman"; taken from Leakesville jail where crowd "surprised the sheriff who was on duty"; victim hanged and body riddled with bullets.

Friday, May 20—Cliftonville, Noxubee county: Dan Anderson charged with killing C. T. Edwards his landlord in a dispute over rent; taken from Sheriff T. B. Adams at pistol point and body riddled with bullets.

April — Macon, Noxubee county: Two negroes accused of murder, burned to death by mob.

In addition, attempts to lynch men charged with crime occurred at Jackson, Miss., Sunday, June 5th while special deputy sheriffs are now guarding the Gulfport jail against attack.

Compares Unfavorably

Six mob murders within two months in Mississippi compares most unfavorably with the record in 1924 when only two persons lost their lives here at the hands of a mob while in 1925 six lynchings was the total for the entire year, tho this was bad enough considering the fact that only 16 occurred in the United States and six of them were in this state.

Not a single one of the six men lynched during the last sixty days was even charged with rape. Five of them were accused of murder, and one with having improper relations with a white woman, no criminal attack being charged in this case. The negro now guarded in the Gulfport jail has just been convicted of murder and sentenced to life in the state penitentiary.

Lynchings - 1927
Cases of.

Mississippi.

2374

MOB THAT BURNS NEGROES AT STAKE GOES UNPUNISHED

Sheriff Claims He Cannot Identify Any Members of Band That Committed Atrocious Crime

500 WHITES IN MOB THAT SLAYS BROTHERS

Is Fourth Lynching In Mississippi Within Month. All Go Without Any Arrests Being Made

(Special to the St. Louis Argus)—LOUISVILLE, Miss., June 15.—"Everything is quiet and officers expect no further trouble." Such is the report that has been given upon four occasions in the last month in Mississippi and practically closed the issue in the lynching of colored persons so that it is becoming a dominate opinion that the slaying of Negroes by whites upon the least provocation is in a way sanctioned by law enforcement officers.

Held By Fear.

The latest and most brutal of the series of atrocious mob-killings occurred near Noxapater, Miss., about dawn Monday—a slaying so horrible and sinister that law-abiding citizens cringed when it was recounted, and shrank in terror and dread over the flaring evidence of the daring deliberation and boldness with which it was committed. Their utter helplessness before the crime of the savage, murderous element responsible for the bloody deeds is so great they fear to even raise a voice against them.

Section is Dangerous.

Mark and Jim Fox, tenant farmers, were the victims of this virtual reign of terror that many say has been instituted by the southern whites as a means to intimidate and suppress the Negro in this section in his revolt against oppression and ignorance, with which the assidious, despotic and arrogant spirit of the southerner tells them they will have to reckon some day.

One of the brothers shot and killed Frank Nichols, labor boss, under whom the two had worked being continually abused. The shooting occurred when Nichols stopped the pair on a highway Sunday night and threatened them with violence over not having performed a certain task at the mill during the Sabbath. Nichols was with his brother at the time, and the two had gone to search for the stubborn 'nig-s" as they said in their explanation of the shooting.

Nichols raised the crop of his riding whip to strike Jim Fox, but he was shot from his horse by the irate laborer. No harm was done to the white man's brother.

Mob Is Quick.

The report of the murder spread rapidly and the brothers were arrested in their cabin by Deputy Sheriff Permenter as they were praying with their families, seemingly in anticipation of their fate.

A mob, supposedly made up of plantation owners and bosses in the vicinity, headed directly for the route they know the sheriff must take in removing his prisoners to safe quarters. No effort seemingly was made by the officers to smuggle their prisoners to safety. They ran into the band of lynchers numbering approximately 500 (some of whom wore masks) on the highway. The officers' automobile was surrounded after they had fired several shots into the air as if to frighten the mob.

The prisoners were jerked from the automobile. They were stripped of most of their clothing and tied with ropes. After being kicked and beaten, they were pulled along staggering behind one of the cars through the town of Louisville, "to serve as an example for other smart nig-s'," as the whites called it.

Burned At Stake.

Finally after their victims had been tortured until it appeared they would drop, they were carried to the outskirts of the town and chained to a post. Brush was piled around the stake.

"Lord have mercy upon us," one of the brothers moaned as gasoline was poured over his body by the feigns. But his pitiful pleas fell upon deaf ears of a shrieking pack of madmen.

A match was applied to the pile of brush. The flames leaped high around the pair in chains, and a hideous sight was seen. The men wriggled in agony and cried in tense pain as the heat scorched their flesh and pungent odors filled the air. Some of the hard-hearted slayers were so moved by pity that they yelled for the crowd to "step back boys we can finish them," and fired several shots into the bodies of their victims to end their suffering. After the burning, the crisp ashes and white bones of the corpse were torn and carried off as souvenirs by many of the lynchers.

Did Not Recognize Lynchers.

Monday a coroner viewed the remains and returned a verdict that the Fox brothers met their death at the hands of parties unknown. Louisville showed no signs of excitement. Everything went on as usual except for a few remarks here and there about the crime of the night before. Sheriff Permenter said he did not recognize any of the members of the mob.

Negroes Burned at Stake by Mississippi Brutes

Louisville, Miss., June 13.—Two colored men accused of having slain Clarence Nichols, a sawmill superintendent, were seized by a mob early today, paraded through the streets of Louisville and then taken a short distance from town, where they were tied to a telephone post and burned to death.

W. S. Permenter, deputy sheriff, and two other officers were taking them to Jackson for safe keeping. They were overtaken near Noxapater by a mob which blocked the highway and demanded the prisoners. The officers at first refused to surrender them and fired several shots into the air in an effort to frighten the mob, whose number was estimated at 1,000, but the mob was insistent.

After gaining possession of the slayers the crowd of barbarians brought them back to Louisville and marched through the principal streets. Then as daylight neared the blood thirsty mob went into the country, tied the helpless men to the improvised funeral pyre, poured several cans of gasoline on them and struck a match.

The terrified screams apparently touched one member of the mob who was said to have attempted to extinguish the blaze, but was seized by others and forced back. It was understood neither victim made any statement.

NEGRO SPIRITED AWAY FOLLOWING TRY AT ASSAULT

Jackson, Miss., July 16.—(AP)—Reports reaching here from Yazoo City tonight said that [illegible], negro, was spirited away by a posse after he had attempted to assault a young white girl late today. No word from the posse was available.

F. R. Birdsall, editor of The Yazoo Sentinel, said over long distance that the negro had been caught in the girl's room by her father. The negro held the girl in front of him as a shield against the father's shots until he made his escape.

The negro was traced to his home by a posse of neighbors, who after catching him, took up his trail from the house with bloodhounds to be assured that Smith was the man wanted.

BELIEVE MISSISSIPPI HAS LYNCHED ANOTHER

Yazoo City, Miss., July 16—(ANP).

The belief here is that Mississippi has added another to its long list of lynchings. The victim in this case is Joe Smith who was charged with assaulting a 16-year old white girl.

Smith is alleged to have entered the woman's room Sunday night and attacked her. He was driven away by the cries of the woman and the entrance of her father. Following the report of the affair a posse formed and tracked him to his home where he was apprehended. The last heard of him was that he was in the custody of the posse, but he was not delivered to the jailer.

Mississippi Mob Lynches Another One

Yazoo City, Miss., July 15.—Dangling from a tree, with a hundred bullet holes marking his body, Joe Smith, peace a well-to-do farmer and laborer in this section, closed another chapter in the lynch history of Mississippi and became the latest victim of the mob Wednesday night.

He was accused of speaking to a white girl without removing his hat. What he said to her was not revealed by those white guardians of Mississippi law and order and bullets from the large crowd of "prominent citizens" cut short his attempts to explain that he was not guilty of any crime.

There were no charges against Joe Smith. Someone claimed to have seen him speak to the girl. Immediately the cry went up that a white woman had been insulted and the girl was forced to admit that he had "attempted to attack her." With the first cry, a mob formed. Smith, unaware that he was being hunted, went to his home and was there when Sheriff Shurley, accompanied by bloodhounds and his "posse" of blood-thirsty citizens, arrived. He was taken from his home and placed in hiding. At least the sheriff declared that he had hidden Smith so that he would be safe from the mob.

After placing Smith where he would be "safe," the sheriff went about his business, and knew nothing of the action of the mob until he received word of the lynching Thursday morning.

MISSISSIPPI MOB KILLS NEGRO FOR ALLEGED ATTACK

Yazoo City, Miss.—The bullet riddled body of Joe Smith, who was alleged to have attempted to attack a young white girl near here, was found hanging from a tree about seventeen miles from this city on Thursday, July 7.

The victim was trailed to his home by bloodhounds and captured by a posse, and kept in hiding during the day. The same night Sheriff Shurley was told his prisoner had been taken from his hiding place by a mob

of about five hundred men.

A rope was tied to his neck and he was made to stand on an automobile. The machine was driven from under him and his body was left hanging from the limb of a tree. In his death struggles his body was riddled with bullets by the bloodthirsty mob.

MISS. LYNCHES AGAIN

ONLY SPOKE TO A WHITE GIRL

Yazoo City, Miss., July 15, 1927.—Dangling from a tree, with a hundred bullet holes marking his body, Joe Smith, once a well-to-do farmer and laborer in this section, closed another chapter in the lynch history of Mississippi, and became the latest victime of the mob Wednesday night.

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After placing Smith where he would be "safe," the sheriff went about his business, and knew nothing of the action of the mob until he received word of the lynching Thursday morning.

FURIOUS MOBS BURN, SHOOT 3 TO DEATH

Officers Prevent Two Others From Being Lynched

Louisville, Miss., June 15.—Accused of slaying Clarence Nichols a sawmill superintendent, two colored men, Jim and Marx Fox, brothers, were seized by a mob early Monday, paraded through the streets of Louisville, and taken a short distance from town where they were tied to a telephone post and burned to death. The mob is estimated at 1,000.

The two colored men had been caught by Deputy Sheriff W. S. Permenter at Noxapater and were started toward Louisville. Before reaching the jail several hundred white persons overpowered the officers. The officers fired several shots in the air in an effort to frightened the mob, but the mob was not to be frightened.

Tied to Funeral Pyre

The two victims were tied to the telephone pole and several cans of gasoline were poured upon their clothing. They were then set afire and burned to death in the improvised funeral pyre.

Nichols, according to reports, was riding with his brother, J. B. Nichols, when he met the two colored men on the road. An argument followed over work at the mill, and the Fox brothers started shooting, and fatally wounding Nichols.

Arkansas Lynches Another

Owen Fleming was shot to death by a posse of two hundred white men, near Helena, Ark., early Wednesday morning. Fleming was charged with killing a white man named Roy Walters and farm overseer.

According to reports the white man had sent for Fleming to help move refugees back to their farms and Fleming sent word to him that he was sick. Angered by the message sent him, Walters went to Fleming's home and attempted to force him to come with him. Fleming, fearing that he would be killed, shot Walters, killing him instantlty. Following the report of the killing, a posse formed and went in search of Fleming and when they surrounded him near hi home they riddled his body with bullets.

Jackson Attempts Lynching

Walter Burley, who confessed the murder of two women, narrowly escaped lynching at the hands of a mob in Jackson, Miss., last week. He has been lodged in prison in Montgomery, Ala. Soldiers were called out to disperse the crowds. Members of the mob are reported to have said that they will rest easy until June 20th, when Burley is to be brought back for trial. Then, they say, they will try to get him.

The Governor of Mississippi from the state capitol here issued the following statement:

"A number of my friends have been to see me to tell me that I am bitterly criticised by various people because as Governor I ordered out state troops to protect the four Negroes who were in the hands of the officers here Saturday.

"The troops were ordered out at the signed request of acting sheriff, the district attorney, and the personal request of the circuit judge.

"When I took the oath of office as Governor, I swore that I would uphold the laws of Mississippi, and stand behind the officers of the law without fear or favor.

"As Governor of Mississippi, it was my sworn duty to call these troops when the officers of the law called on me for them.

"I regard my oath of office as sacred no matter what my personal or individual inclinations or desires in any matter might be, as Governor of this state my sincerest desire is to follow the path of duty."—Dennis Murphree.

Memphis Mob Threatens

Tommie Lee Brown, 20, charged with attacking a white woman, was only saved from lynching at the hands of 1,000 angry whites Tuesday, by the timely arrival of officers. The youth was beaten before the police arrived and cries of "lynch him" filled the air. Officers quieted the mob.

Lynchings-1927

Mississippi.

2375

Cases of

KENTUCKY MOB LYNCHES TWO AS OFFICERS FIRE INTO AI

LOUISVILLE, Miss., June 13.—Jim and Mark Fo brothers, accused of having slain Clarence Nichols, whit a sawmill superintendent, were seized by a mob early thi morning, paraded through the streets of Louisville and then taken a short distance from town, where they were tied to a telephone post, saturated with gasoline and burned to death. Upstate Dem News

W. S. Permenter, deputy sheriff, and two other officers were taking the men to Jackson supposedly for safe keeping. They were overtaken, they claim, near Noxapater by a mob of 1,000 men, which blocked the highway and demanded the prisoners. The officers at first refused to surrender them and fired several shots into the air, but the mob was insistent.

6-15-27

The men's terrified screams apparently touched one member of the mob, who was said to have attempted to extinguish the blaze, but was seized by others and forced back. Neither victim made any statement. Miss. York,

Because of the darkness the officers were unable to recognize any members of the band. no yr.

Nichols was shot to death Sunday after an altercation with the brothers over some work at the mill.

NEW YORK AMERICAN

JUN 14 1927

Mobs Burns Two Men at Stake

LOUISVILLE, Miss., June 13 (AP)—Two negroes, accused of having slain Clarence Nicholas, a sawmill superintendent were seized by a mob of 1,000 early today, paraded through the streets of Louisville, taken a short distance from town, tied to a telephone post and burned to death.

W. S. Permenter, deputy sheriff, and two other officers taking the negroes to Jackson for safe keeping vainly fired several shots into the air in an effort to frighten the mob.

Members of the mob poured several cans of gasoline on the negroes and struck a match. The negroes' screams touched one member of the mob who attempted to extinguish the blaze, but he was seized by others and forced back.

NEW YORK TELEGRAPH

JUN 14 1927

TWO NEGROES LYNCHED

MERIDIAN, Miss., June 13 (U. P.)—Two negroes, Jim and Mark Fox, brothers, were seized and burned at a stake by a mob of several hundred persons today near Louisville, Miss.

LYNCHED WAS E LIVEL

ADDITIONAL DETAILS OF THE THIRD MISS. LYNCHING DUR ING FLOOD CALAMITY AND SCOURGE—WAS A JAIL DELIV ERY

Laurel, Miss., June 1, 1927.—Additional information concerning the lynching of Eddie Lively, 25 year old man at Bothwell on Wednesday night, was learned here. The was from Jasper, Texas.

The victim was removed from the jail at Leakesville, taken to Bothwell, hanged to a tree and his body riddled with bullets.

The lynching was said to have resulted from an alleged misconduct of the man with a white woman. He was arrested and taken to Piave for trial, but feeling ran so high he was sent to Leakeville for safe keeping.

The crowd surprised the officer on duty at the jail, it was reported, and Lively was taken immediately to Rothwell.

Shots were heard there late Wednesday night and the lynching is supposed to have been done at that time.

More than 100 persons were said to have participated.

MOB BURNS 2 NEGROES NEAR LOUISVILLE, MISS.

Forces Officers to Surrender Prisoners Accused of Slaying Mill Man.

LOUISVILLE, Miss., June 13 (AP).—Two negroes, Jim and Mark Fox brothers, accused of having slain Clarence Nichols, a sawmill superintendent, were seized by a mob early this morning, paraded through the streets of Louisville and then taken a short distance from town where they were tied to a telephone post, saturated with gasoline and burned to death. 6-14-27

W. S. Permenter, deputy sheriff and two other officers were taking the negroes to Jackson for safe keeping. They were overtaken near Noxapater by a mob of 1,000 men which blocked the highway and demanded the prisoners. The officers at first refused to surrender them and fired several shots into the air but the mob was insistent.

The negroes' terrified screams apparently touched one member of the mob, who was said to have attempted to extinguish the blaze, but was seized by others and forced back. Neither victim made any statement.

Because of the darkness the officers were unable to recognize any members of the band.

Nichols was shot to death Sunday after an altercation with the negroes over some work at the mill.

MOB BURNS 2 TO DEATH

IN MISS.—ACCUSED OF MURDER OF WHITE BOSS—SHRIEKS CAUSE ONE WHITE TO RELENT

Louisville, Miss., June 13, 1927.—Two Colored men, accused of having slain Clarence Nichols, a sawmill superintendent, were seized by a mob of 1000 persons, early today, paraded through the streets of Louisville and then taken a short distance from town, where they were tied to a telephone post and burned to death.

W. S. Permenter, deputy sheriff and two other officers were taking them to Jackson for safe keeping.

After gaining possession of the slayers the crowd brought them back to Louisville and marched them through the principal streets, then as daylight neared, they went into the country, tied them to the improvised funeral pyre, poured several cans of gasoline on them and struck a match.

Their terrified screams apparently touched one member of the mob who was said to have attempted to extinguish the blaze, but was seized by others and forced back.

Nichols was shot to death Sunday after an altercation with Jim and Mark Fox, brothers, over some work at the mill. The superintendent was said to have been unarmed at the time. Deputy Sheriff Permenter arrested the men near their home last night and started with them in his automobile for Jackson.

Nichols was popular here and news of his death spread rapidly. Posses had been organized to search for the slayers before they were captured.

NEGROES ACCUSED OF MURDER BURNED TO DEATH BY MOB

Two Prisoners Seized From Sheriff, Paraded Through Mississippi Town and Saturated With Gasoline

LOUISVILLE, MISS., June 13.—(AP)—Two negroes accused of having slain Clarence Nichols, a saw mill superintendent, were seized by a mob early today, paraded through the streets of Louisville and then taken a short distance from town where they were tied to a telephone pole and burned to death after their clothes had been saturated with gasoline.

W. S. Permentier, deputy sheriff, who with two other officers were taking the negroes to Jackson for safekeeping, was overpowered near Noxapater by a mob that blocked the highway and demanded the prisoners. The officers at first refused to surrender them and fired several shots into the air in an effort to frighten the mob, whose numbers were estimated at 1,000, but the mob was insistent.

After gaining possession of the slayers, the crowd brought them back to Louisville and marched them through the principal streets, then as day light neared they went into the country, tied them to the improvised funeral pyre, poured several cans of gasoline on them and struck a match.

The negroes' terrified screams apparently touched one of the mob members, who was said to have attempted to extinguish the blaze, but was seized by others and forced back. It was understood neither victim made any statement.

Because of the darkness, the officers were unable to recognize any member of the band.

Nichols was shot to death Sunday following an altercation with Jim and Mark Fox, brothers, over some work at the mill. The superintendent was said to have been unarmed at the time. Deputy Sheriff Permentier apprehended the negroes near their home last night and started with them in his automobile for Jackson. Nichols was popular here and news of his death spread rapidly. Posses had been organized to search for the slayers before they were captured.

TWO NEGROES LYNCHED BY MOB AT LOUISVILLE

Brothers Killed Sawmill Superintendent Sunday Night.

OFFICERS OVERPOWERED

Town Immediately Resumes Business Activities After Avenging Death of Clarence Nichols—Officers Start Quiet Investigation.

Special to The Commercial Appeal.

LOUISVILLE, Miss., June 13.—Mark and Jim Fox, negro brothers, who shot and killed Clarence Nichols, sawmill superintendent, here late Sunday night, were taken from Deputy Sheriff W. S. Permenter by a mob estimated at 100, bound to a telephone pole about three miles from here early today, shot to death and their bodies burned.

The negroes were caught by Deputy Sheriff W. S. Permenter and were started toward Jackson for safe-keeping. As the sheriff's car, with two deputies guarding the accused slayers, neared Noxapater, the mob blocked the highway and demanded that the negroes be turned over to them.

The officers refused to surrender their prisoners and made an effort to resist the mob, firing several shots into the air to frighten off the crowd. The officers were overpowered.

Bodies Burned.

The negroes were brought to Louisville, paraded through the streets at 4 o'clock this morning, until they were exhausted, and then taken to the scene of the lynching. Several shots were fired into the bodies of the accused slayers, then gasoline was poured upon them and ignited. Officers report that one negro had confessed to the shooting. The other maintained his innocence.

Mr. Nichols was shot to death Sunday night in an altercation with the negroes over some work at the mill. He was riding with his

brother, J. D. Nichols, when they met the two negroes on the road. The argument became heated, the negroes fired the fatal shot and fled. J. B. Nichols was not struck by a bullet and notified the officers of the shooting.

News of the slaying spread through the district like wildfire and several posses were quickly formed. Threats of violence were heard from every side. Sheriff Permenter cornered the Fox brothers near their home heer late Sunday night and without difficulty arrested them both.

Nichols, who was popular here, leaves a wife and several children. He was buried at Conesatti, Miss., late this afternoon.

Louisville showed no signs of excitement after the lynching today. Business activities were immediately carried on as if nothing had happened. Officers began at once making a quiet investigation. Sheriff Permenter stated that he and his men recognized none of the mob on account of the darkness.

LYNCH NEGRO IN MISSISSIPPI

Yazoo City Mob of 500 Takes Hidden Prisoner From Posse.

YAZOO CITY, Miss., July 7 (AP).—The bullet-riddled body of Joe Smith, negro, who is alleged to have attempted an attack on a young white girl near here, today was found hanging from a tree about seventeen miles from here.

The negro was trailed to his home by bloodhounds and there captured by a posse and kept in hiding during yesterday. Last night Sheriff Shurley was told the negro was taken from his hiding place by a mob of 500 men. A rope was tied around his neck, he was made to stand on an automobile and then the machine was driven from under him, leaving his body hanging from the limb of a tree.

BODY FOUND

Bullet-Riddled Corpse Of Alleged Negro Attacker Hung To Tree

YAZOO CITY, Miss., July 7.—(AP) The bullet riddled body of Joe Smith, negro, who is alleged to have attempted an attack on a young white girl near here was Thursday found hanging from a tree about 17 miles from here.

Negro's Body Found.

Yazoo City, Miss., July 7.—(AP)—The bullet-riddled body of Joe Smith, negro, who is alleged to have attempted an attack on a young white girl near here, was today found hanging from a tree about 17 miles from here.

NEW YORK EVE. POST

JUL 7 1927

NEGRO BELIEVED LYNCHED

Mississippi Band Captures Him After Alleged Attack

Yazoo City, Miss., July 7 (AP).—The fate of Joe Smith, negro, who was seized by a band of men yesterday after he was alleged to have attempted to attack a young white girl, had not been determined by officials today. Police believe that Smith has been lynched and the body either hidden or burned.

The negro was discovered by the girl's father, it is alleged, and when the father attempted to shoot him he used his intended victim as a shield until he could escape. He was captured almost immediately by a band of men.

Seizing the accused men, the mob paraded them through the town's principal streets. What the police did to save the men is unknown. Whatever it was it was not noticeable. As daylight neared the murderous mob took the helpless victims outside of town to their horrible death.

NEW YORK CITY SUN and GLOBE

JUL 7 1927

Missing Negro Believed Lynched by Mob

YAZOO CITY, Miss., July 7 (A. P.).—The fate of Joe Smith, a negro, who was seized by a band of men yesterday after he was alleged to have attempted to attack a young white girl, was undetermined by officials to-day. The police believe that Smith has been lynched and the body either hidden or burned.

The negro was discovered by the girl's father, it is alleged, and when the father attempted to shoot him he used his intended victim as a shield until he could escape. He was captured almost immediately by a band of men and bloodhounds were put on a trail which led from the point of capture to the home where the attack was attempted. The girl identified the negro, the police said, and as soon as she had done so his captors rushed him away in an automobile.

Negro Brothers Burned at Stake By Mississippi Mob of 1,000

LOUISVILLE, Miss., June 13 (A. P.)—Two Negroes, accused of having killed Clarence Nichols, a sawmill superintendent, were seized by a mob early today, paraded through the streets of Louisville and then taken a short distance from town, where they were tied to a telephone pole and burned to death.

W. S. Permenter, Deputy Sheriff, and two other officers were taking the Negroes to Jackson for safe keeping. They were overtaken near Noxapater by a mob which blocked the highway and demanded the prisoners. The officers at first refused to surrender them and fired several shots into the air in an effort to frighten the mob, whose number were estimated at 1,000, but the mob was insistent.

After gaining possession of the Negroes, the crowd brought them back to Louisville and marched them through the principal streets. Then as daylight neared they went into the country, tied them to the improvised funeral pyre, poured several cans of gasoline on them and struck a match.

The Negroes' terrified screams apparently touched one member of the mob who was said to have attemped to extinguish the blaze, but was seized by others and forced back. It was understood neither victim made any statement.

Because of the darkness, the officers were unable to recognize any members of the band.

Nichols was shot to death Sunday after an altercation with Jim and Mark Fox, brothers, over some work at the mill. The superintendent was said to have been unarmed at the time. Deputy Sheriff Permenter arrested the Negroes near their home last night and started with them in his automobile for Jackson.

Nicols was popular here, and news of his death spread rapidly. Posses had been organized to search for the Negroes.

NEGRO IS LYNCHED IN MISSISSIPPI

Suspect In Said Attempted Attack On Girl Reported To Have Been Hanged and Shot.

YAZOO CITY, Miss., July 6—(Special) According to unconfirmed reports received here Wednesday, Joe Smith, 20-year-old youth was hung to a tree and his body riddled with bullets by a mob near this city. The youth was accussed of attempting to attack a 16-year-old white girl.

It was said that the girl, whose name was withheld, told a story of a Negro coming thru the open window of her bed room and attempting to attack her." Suspicion fell upon Smith who had been employed at the home of the girl.

Investigation revealed that Smith had been taken from his home by a band of white men following the girl's story of the attack. Although no traces could be found of his body it was said that the men took their victim away and lynched him. A posse was sent out to search for the body of the boy.

NEGRO LYNCHED, BODY RIDDLED WITH BULLETS

Attempted Assault of 16-Year-Old Girl Brings Mob

YAZOO CITY, Miss., July 7.—Joe Smith, negro, 25 years old, was lynched shortly after 8 o'clock last night, near Midway, in the northeast part of Yazoo County, by a crowd of negroes estimated at 500 people. The crime which caused summary punishment was the attempted criminal assault at 2 o'clock yesterday morning on the person of a 16-year-old daughter of a prominent farmer in the neighborhood for whom the negro had formerly worked.

Scared away by the father of the girl who screamed when the negro took hold of her, the negro made his escape, although fired on by the irate father as he made his way from the house.

The father aroused the neighbors, who gathered at the home and got a description of the negro, who was recognized by the girl. They went at once to the negro's house a mile away, and arrested him, and brought him to the scene of the attempted crime. To make assurance doubly sure, the mob phoned for the bloodhounds at Parchman Farm, and put them on the tracks, plainly visible around the house where the attempted assault was committed. The dogs followed the trail directly to the negro's cabin.

Following reports of the arrest of the negro and his reported lynching, Deputy Sheriff Bob Shurley was sent to the scene, and was told frankly that they had the negro, and they intended to lynch him, but would not reveal his whereabouts.

Some time after dark last night the negro was taken to Tcheva Bridge, four miles from the scene of the attack, the negro placed on top of an automobile, with his hands and feet tied, a rope put around his neck, and when the car was driven from under him, his body was riddled with bullets, and the mob departed. His family carried his body home some time during the night, and the coroner today held an inquest, the jury finding that he came to his death by parties unknown to them.

THE LYNCHING RECORD FOR THE YEAR MOUNTS

Two More "Done To Death" By Mobs In Mississippi; No Arrests

Special to Journal and Guide

Louisville, Miss., June 13—One thousand of the noble white citizenry of the South today paraded two Negroes thru the streets of Louisville to a point a short distance from town, tied them to a telephone pole, soaked their clothes with gasoline, and burned them to death at the unholy funeral pyre.

They were accused of having slain Clarence Nichols, a sawmill superintendent. Nichols was shot to death Sunday following an altercation with two brothers, Jim and Mark Fox, over some work at the plant. It is said that the superintendent was unarmed.

The two Negro employees were accused of the crime and apprehended by Deputy Sheriff Permenter near their home last night. From here the prisoners were taken in an automobile in the direction of Jackson. But they never reached Jackson. Instead they met death at the hands of an infuriated mob of vicious whites following the Southern tradition of clogging the wheels of justice.

Before the men were arrested, posses had formd to search for them. The mob of 1,000 met the car on the road to Jackson, where the prisoners were being taken for safe keeping to Jackson. At first the officers refused to give up the men, but merely shot into the air in remonstrance.

POSSE SPIRITS NEGRO AWAY AFTER ASSAULT

Whereabouts of Party Unknown; Was Found in White Girl's Room

JACKSON, MISS., July 6.—(AP)—Reports reaching here fram Yazoo City tonight said that Joe Smith, negro, was spirited away by a posse after he had attempted to assault a young white girl late today. He was taken from the posse [illegible].

F. H. Byrdsell, editor of the Yazoo Sentinel, said over long distance telephone that the negro had been caught in the girl's room by her father. The negro held the girl in front of him as a shield against the father's shots until he made his escape.

The negro was traced to his home by a posse of neighbors who after catching him, took up the trail from the house with bloodhounds to be assured that Smith was the man wanted.

When the posse was certain Smith was the alleged attacker he was spirited away in an automobile for points undivulged.

No one in Yazoo City could give any information leading to the negro's whereabouts or his fate.

Lynchings - 1927
Cases of.

Mississippi.

2376

NEW YORK
HERALD

MAY 21 1927

Mob Lynches Negro for Killing

MACON, Miss., May 20 (AP).—Dan Anderson, Negro, thirty-two years old, who is alleged to have confessed that he killed T. C. Edwards, young white farmer, of Cliftonville, Miss., was lynched by a mob which took him from officers just over the line in Alabama in the Tombigee Swamps late to-day.

NEW YORK TIMES

MAY 21 1927

MISSISSIPPI NEGRO LYNCHED

Mob Takes Negro From Officers and Shoots Him in Swamp.

MACON, Miss., May 20 (AP).—Dan Anderson, a negro, aged 32, who is alleged to have confessed that he killed T. C. Edwards, a young white farmer of Cliftonville, Miss., was lynched by a mob which took him from officers just over the line in Alabama in the Tombigbee swamps late today.

The mob followed the officers from Tuscaloosa, where Anderson was arrested last night. There were nearly 100 men in the crowd which forced Sheriff Adams of Noxubee County to release the prisoner. They took the negro into the swamps a short distance from the road where more than 200 shots were fired into his body.

NEGRO IS LYNCHED BY MISSISSIPPI MOB

Alleged Slayer of Young White Farmer Taken From Sheriff at Point of Gun

MACON, MISS., May 20.—(AP)—Dan Anderson, 32, negro, who is alleged to have confessed that he killed T. C. Edwards, young white farmer of Clifton ville, Miss., was lynched by a mob who took him from officers just across the Mississippi line in the Tombigbee swamps late today. The mob followed the officers from Tuscaloosa, where Anderson was arrested last night. There were 300 or 500 men in the crowd which forced Sheriff Adams of Noxubee county to release the prisoner at the point of a gun. They took him into the swamps a short distance from the road where more than 200 shots were fired into his body.

Charles Richards, lawyer of Macon, who was with Sheriff T. B. Adams of Noxubee county, when the negro was seized by the mob, said tonight there were 300 to 500 men in the mob and that the lynching took place in Mississippi, across the state line from Pickensville, Ala.

The negro was arrested today at Elrod, Ala., and removed to Tuscaloosa. Sheriff Adams and his party left Tuscaloosa with Anderson this afternoon after being assured that no harm would befall the negro if taken to Macon.

Anderson's father was lynched a number of years ago for the murder of a white man, Mr. Richards said, and the negro's grandfather killed the father of the president of a Macon bank.

NEGRO YOUTH LYNCHED

Masked Band of 100 Men Take Victim From Leaksville, Miss., Jail

JACKSON, MISS., May 26.—(AP)—Bernice Raspberry, 23, alias Ed Lively, negro, who gave his address as Jasper, Texas, was taken from the Leaksville jail last night by a masked band of about 100 men and lynched, A. H. Harvison, deputy sheriff at Leaf, told the Associated Press over long distance telephone tonight.

Mr. Harvison said he arrested the negro at Neely Tuesday on a charge of beating a board bill and was informed by the sheriff that the negro was wanted at Bothwell for alleged improper conduct with a white woman.

N. Y. WORLD

MAY 21 1927

LYNCH NEGRO IN MISSISSIPPI

MACON, Miss., May 20 (A. P.)—Dan Anderson, Negro, thirty-two, who is alleged to have confessed that he killed T. C. Edwards, a young white farmer, was lynched by a mob which took him from officers late to-day.

NEW YORK
EVE. WORLD

MAY 21 1927

LYNCH NEGRO IN ALABAMA

MACON, Miss., May 21 (A. P.)—Dan Anderson, Negro, thirty-two, who is alleged to have confessed that he killed T. C. Edwards, a young white farmer, was lynched just over the line in Alabama by a mob which took him from officers late yesterday.

MOB HANGS RACE YOUTH NEAR FLOOD

Taken From Jail The Day

Before Trial For Refusing to Pay Woman 'Boss' Debt and Lynched

JACKSON, Miss., June 1—The fourth lynching of colored Americans within a month occurred in an isolated section in Green County, near Bothwell, Miss., Wednesday night, when a band of over 100 whites seized Eddie Lively, 25-year-old colored youth from a deputy sheriff and hanged him and riddled his body with bullets. It was the second lynching in Mississippi within a week.

Talk Back To Woman

Lively was said to have talked back to a white woman on whose farm he was a tenant concerning a debt which she alleged he owed but refused to pay. Lively was taken to a rudely constructed jail at Neely, Miss., where he was arrested. He was later removed to Leakesville where he was to have been tried Thursday.

Seized By Mob

A crowd stormed the Leakesville jail where one guard was on duty. They took Lively out and carried him to a wooded section. After beating the youth severely in an effort to force a confession from him they finally hanged him from the limb of a tree. They then fired hundreds of bullets into the suspended form.

No Arrests Made

No arrest was made and the deputy sheriff in charge of the jail when the mob came said he could not identify any members of the mob.

The section where the lynching occurred was recently partly inundated by the flood. All of the telephone wires are down which makes communication difficult.

Howling Missouri Mob Burns Negro Brothers In Huge Lynching Orgy

LOUISVILLE, Miss., June 13.—Two brothers, Jim and Mark Fox, Negroes, were burned to a stake near here early today by a mob of at least 1000 people.

The Negroes were taken from Deputy Sheriff Permenter. Clarence Nichols, sawmill superintendent, notorious for his brutal treatment of men, was shot and killed. The Negroes were accused of the crime.

They were arrested a few hours after the slaying and were being rushed to Jackson, Miss., for safe keeping when the mob overpowered the officers and took their prisoners into a nearby wood.

MAKE WIFE LEAD LYNCHERS TO HUBBY HIDING

MACON, MISS., (ANP.) — A mob of some 200 white men "overpowered" the officers who had arrested Dan Anderson for killing Tom Edwards, a white man, near here, riddled the prisoner's body with bullets.

More than a hundred shots were fired into Anderson's body by the mob in order "to be sure that the nigger who dared to kill a white man was dead."

Anderson is alleged to have killed Edwards when the white man, who is an over-seer on his father's plantation, sought to restrain him by force from leaving the farm. The report had been circulated that Anderson was planning to move his family North, and Edwards went to Anderson's home and threatened violence. Seeing that his life was in danger, Anderson shot Edwards, fatally wounding him.

The killing of a white man so aroused the Mississippians that a mob formed immediately to "help the officers". The county was scoured but Anderson could not be found. The mob, then, is alleged to have gone to Anderson's home and maltreated his wife until she disclosed the hiding place of her husband.

NEGRO SLAYERS BURNED TO DEATH BY MOB IN SOUTH

Louisville, Miss., June 13.—(AP)—Two Negroes accused of having slain Clarence Nichols, a sawmill superintendent, were seized by a mob early today, paraded through the streets of Louisville, and then taken a short distance from town where they were tied to a telephone post and burned to death.

Three officers were taking the Negroes to Jackson for safekeeping, but were attacked by a mob which demanded the prisoners. The officers fired several shots into the air in an effort to frighten the mob, but the mob was insistent.

The Negroes were tied to the improvised funeral pyre and several cans of gasoline were poured on them.

The Negroes' terrified screams apparently touched one member of the mob, who was said to have attempted to extinguish the blaze, but was seized by others and forced back.

Nichols was shot to death Sunday after an altercation with Jim and Mark Fox, brothers, over work at the mill.

3RD MISS. LYNCHING

DURING THE FLOOD—NOT EVEN THE ACCUSATION FULLY DETERMINED

Lucedale, Miss., May 31, 1927:—The third lynching in the Mississippi Valley flood district was reported Tuesday when Sheriff McCloud, of Bothwell, reported that a man had been taken from there by a mob and riddled with bullets.

According to the sheriff, the mob's victim was being held there for a charge, the character of which had not been determined. All telephone lines in that section being out of order, details of the lynching could not be obtained.

WIFE LEADS LYNCHERS TO HUSBAND'S HIDING PLACE

MACON, Miss., May 24.—(A. N. P.)—A mob of some 200 white men "overpowered" the officers who had arrested Dan Anderson for killing Tom Edwards, a white man, near here, and riddled the prisoner's body with bullets. More than 200 shots were fired into Anderson's body by the mob.

Anderson is alleged to have killed Edwards when the white man, who was an overseer on his father's plantation "sought to restrain him by force from leaving the farm." The report had been circualted that Anderson was planning to move his family North, and Edwards went to Anderson's home and threatened violence. Seeing that his life was in danger, Anderson shot Edwards, fatally wounding him.

The killing of a white man by a Negro so aroused the Mississippians that a mob formed immediately to "help the officers" bring the Negro to justice. The county was scoured but Anderson could not be found. The mob, then, is alleged to have gone to Anderson's home and maltreated his wife until she disclosed the hiding place of her husband.

The officers rushed to the hiding place and apprehended the alleged slayer and was en route to this town with the prisoner when they met the maniacal mob. After a bit of ceremony the prisoner was turned over to the lynchers who carried him a short distance and poured a volley of bullets into his body.

Accused Of Having White Mistress; Man Is Lynched

JACKSON, MISS., June 2.—(By the Associated Negro Press.)—Because he was alleged to have had relations with white women several months ago at Neely, Miss., Bernie Raspberry, age 23, was taken from the Lakesville Jail, Thursday night by a band of masked men and lynched.

Raspberry was arrested Tuesday for failure to pay his board bill. Thursday it was learned that he was the same man, who was accused of being the lover of Neely white women, and the mob formed and Raspberry expiated with his life for the unforgivable and unforgettable crime which he had dared to commit.

MISSISSIPPI LYNCHES ANOTHER NEGRO

Jackson, Miss., June 4—(ANP)—[illegible] decided to have had relations with white woman several months ago at Neely, Mississippi, Bernie Rasberry, age 23, was taken from the Lakesville Jail, Thursday night by a band of masked men and lynched.

Raspberry was arrested Tuesday for failure to pay his board bill. Thursday it was learned that he was the same man, who was accused of being the lover of a Neely white woman, and the mob formed and Raspberry expiated with his life for the unforgivable and unforgettable crime which he had dared to commit.

MISS. HAS THIRD FLOOD LYNCHING

LUCEDALE, Miss. — The third lynching in the Mississippi Valley flood district was reported Thursday, when Sheriff McCloud, of Rockwell, reported that a man had been taken from there by a mob and riddled with bullets.

According to the sheriff, the mob's victim was being held there for a charge, the character of which had not been determined. All telephone lines in that section being out of order, details of the lynching could not be obtained.

BLOODHOUNDS, POSSE, TRAIL MISS. SLAYER

Macon, Miss., May 27.—(Special.)—A man-hunt occupied the greater part of Monday for Sheriff V. C. Adams and Deputy Ancil Lindley, spent across the Alabama line near Carrollton, where a colored man, B. Anderson, who was sought for the killing of a young white man, Tommy Edwards, was supposed to be hiding.

The search, which was fruitless in this direction, will be taken up another until the man is found.

The dogs carried the trail to the barn of J. Q. Poindexter at Ravine, where it was lost in the stall of one of the mules that were stabled there.

The officers suppose the fugitive mounted the mule here and thus evaded being followed.

The victim was the son of O. C. Edwards, of Noxubee County, and lived on his father's farm near Cliftonville where he helped in the management of the large population.

He was shot twice by the man from ambush on last Sunday night, the weapon being a shot gun. One of the shots took effect in the young man's back, severing the spinal column. He was immediately rushed to Electric Mills, where he died Tuesday morning.

Tragedy Follows Quarrel

The circumstances of the killing were occasioned by a rupture between the young overseer and the colored tenant over the determination of the man to move to Carrollton after having made a contract to remain through this year on the Edward's place.

When the information that a truck was to be sent from Carrollton to move the colored man and his household goods on Sunday night reached Edwards, the young man demanded that Anderson remain where he was already under contract, and the enraged Negro, it is said, threatened to kill Edwards. In spite of this, on Sunday night Edwards accompanied by E. L. Hale, went to the man's house to prevent the removal and upon reaching the door, Edwards was shot at from the bushes near the house, the second discharge from the gun emptying its load in the young man.

This shooting occurred at nine o'clock and as soon as possible the Jenkins bloodhounds from Meridian, were brought to the scene and put on the trail.

NEW YORK TIMES
JUN 14 1927

MOB BURNS 2 NEGROES NEAR LOUISVILLE, MISS.

Forces Officers to Surrender Prisoners Accused of Slaying Mill Man.

LOUISVILLE, Miss., June 13 (AP).—Two negroes, Jim and Mark Fox, brothers, accused of having slain Clarence Nichols, a sawmill superintendent, were seized by a mob early this morning, paraded through the streets of Louisville and then taken a short distance from town, where they were tied to a telephone post, saturated with gasoline, and burned to death.

W. S. Permenter, deputy sheriff, and two other officers were taking the negroes to Jackson for safe keeping. They were overtaken near Noxapater by a mob of 1,000 men which blocked the highway and demanded the prisoners. The officers at first refused to surrender them and fired several shots into the air, but the mob was insistent.

The negroes' terrified screams apparently touched one member of the mob, who was said to have attempted to extinguish the blaze, but was seized by others and forced back. Neither victim made any statement.

Because of the darkness the officers were unable to recognize any members of the band.

Nichols was shot to death Sunday after an altercation with the negroes over some work at the mill.

HERALD
DULUTH, MINN.
JUN 14 1927

UNDER THE VENEER.

Down in Mississippi yesterday two Negroes, accused—but not convicted—of having killed a white sawmill superintendent, were captured by a mob, paraded through the streets of Louisville, and then taken a little way out of town and burned to death.

Incidents like these happen often enough to make mankind, when it gets to thinking it is something, humbly mindful of the beast that, not yet wholly conquered, lurks a little below the veneer of civilization.

Nor can we, since in Duluth a few years ago a mob that knew very little about whether or not their victims were guilty lynched three men, be pharasaical by calling it a Southern habit.

Mankind has still quite a task before it to get rid of that beast which sleeps under a veneer that is all too easily shattered.

Echo
Legonier - Pa
JUN 15 1927

Two Negroes Lynched in Miss.

Two negroes accused of killing Clarence Nichols, a sawmill superintendent, were seized by a mob Monday, paraded through the streets of Louisville and then taken a short distance from town where they were tied to a post and burned to death.

W. F. Permenter, deputy sheriff, and two other officers were taking the negroes to Jackson for safe keeping. They were overtaken by a mob that blocked the highway and demanded the prisoners, who were then marched through the principal streets, tied to the post and several cans of gasoline poured on them.

The negroes terrified screams apparently touched one member of the mob, who was said to have attempted to extinguish the flames, but was seized by others and forced back.

Nichols was shot to death Sunday afternoon in an altercation with Tim and Mark Fox, brothers, over some work at the mill. Nichols was popular and news of his death spread rapidly.

MISSISSIPPI MOB STAGES LYNCHING BEE

Victim's Body Riddled With Bullets

Macon, Miss., May 27.—(Special.)—Another example of southern democracy was shown here Friday, when a mob numbering more than 500 prominent city officials, clergymen, physicians and lawyers followed Sheriff T. B. Adams of Noxbuee county, Miss., from Tuscaloosa, Ala., to a point just across the line, where they took Dan Anderson, 32 years of age, and riddled his body with 200 bullets.

This lynching is only one of the many public demonstrations held in this state by whites whose wrath has been aroused over the recent flood.

No Arrests Made

A coroner's jury investigating the death of Anderson returned a verdict of death at the hands of unknown parties. No efforts have been made to arrest those responsible for the lynching bee.

Anderson was charged with the murder of C. T. Edwards, white farmer of Cliftonville, Miss. According to the story told by other residents on the Edwards plantation and witnesses to the murder, Edwards had engaged in a quarrel with Anderson over a debt of long standing. Although Anderson pledged to pay the money at his earliest convenience, Edwards drew a revolver and threatened the man's life for "getting smart."

In self-defense Anderson is said to have seized the revolver in a struggle with his employer and fired. The bullet found its mark in Edwards' body and he died before aid could be administered.

Knowing that is life was in danger, Anderson left town, and was about to catch a train out of Tuscaloosa when arrested. Police immediately wired Mississippi officials that the slayer had been taken into custody and to make preparations for a "lynching bee."

Sheriff Releases Prisoner

At the county jail Anderson was turned over to Sheriff Adams, who was directed to drive to the Mississippi border line and release his prisoner.

Upon arrival at the state line the mob greeted Sheriff Adams and Anderson. Following a short ceremony, the prisoner was tied to a tree and his body riddled with bullets.

Anderson's father was lynched several years ago by members of the same mob. He, too, was charged with murder.

Lynchings-1927
Cases of

Missouri.

2377

NEGROES LYNCHED BY MISSOURI AND MISSISSIPPI MOBS

Suspect Is Taken From Jail and Hanged and Body Riddled With Bullets In Southeast Missouri

NO ARRESTS ARE MADE

Mississippi Plantation Is Scene of Atrocious Crime Which Results From Peonage Outrage

(Special to the St. Louis Argus)

BRAGGADOCIA, (Mo.) May 25.—Pemiscot County, located in the extreme southeast of Missouri on the borders of Tennessee, Arkansas, and Kentucky, "hot bed" of race hate, where last year the dynamiting of Negroes' homes, beatings and other brutalities against innocent colored Americans occurred, was the setting for another outburst of white savagery and barbarism Sunday night that culminated in lynching.

Taken as Suspect

Will Sherrod, 30 years old, was seized by a mob estimated to have been composed of from 100 to 250 hate crazed, frenzied fiends, who dragged him from a cot in the Pemiscot County jail at Curuthersville, 15 miles east of here where he lay already suffering from bullet wounds.

Sherrod had been confined after constable Orby Dye had gone to his home early Sunday and arrested him as a suspect in connection with an alleged attack upon a white woman, Mrs. Henry Hendershot, 31, a widow with two children. The constable said that he arrested Sherrod because the woman's description of her assailant fit him. He alleged that the suspect was asleep in a bed in his cabin with a pistol at his side when taken. It was said that Sherrod was shot twice when he attempted to flee.

Would Have Wrecked Jail

In telling of the lynching, Sheriff H. Smith, who was in charge of the jail when the mob came, stated that he was called to the door by the men and he went unarmed thinking it his deputies. He said five masked men pushed their way in and demanded the prisioner.

"We're going to get him if we have to tear down the jail," they said, "we won't hurt you if you let us have him."

Smith said he persuaded the men to be seated and attempted to reason with them, but two of them leveled revolvers at him and grabbed one of three men in a cell.

"That's not the one," the Sheriff said he told the lynchers and they finally laid hands on Sherrod, who the sheriff said was so weak from his wounds that he had not moved him to a stronger jail, though he sensed a lynching was imminent.

Made Human Target

After tying their victim the lynchers ordered the sheriff to stay inside and carried the helpless Negro to waiting automobiles. The sheriff said he did not try to follow, knowing he would be helpless. He said he did not recognize any of the masked men.

Sherrod was whisked away to this town. A rude structure was hastily constructed of timbers in the heart of the town. While the villagers gazed in horror, the wounded man was strung up to the timbers by the wrists so as to make a good target. The lynchers then stepped back and fired many shots into the groaning Sherrod's body. The bullet torn body was left hanging until noon Monday when the Coronor arrived and ordered it cut down. A verdict of death at the hands of a mob of persons unknown was given.

Section's Second Lynching

The victim of the mob came to Braggadocio last September from St. Louis, and is said to have a brother there.

The lynching at Braggadocio was the second in Southeast Missouri in the past 30 months. Roosevelt Grigby, colored American, was lynched by a mob at Charleston, about 75 miles north of here, December 18, 1925, after he was said to have frightened a white high school girl. He was taken from officers in a room in the court house where he was being questioned

No one was sentenced in connection with the crime.

MACON, Miss., May 25.—(Special) Maddened by peonage tactics which had kept his family in a virtual state of bondage on a plantation in Noxubee county close to this city, Dan Anderson fatally wounded Thomas Edward, white boss overseer, Sunday May 15, when he came to his home to enforce more compulsion upon the little family. Friday, May 20, Anderson paid with his life the act that had been prompted by his tortured mind, when a mob of many hundred whites riddled his body with bullets as he was being taken to the bars of justice, where he would have no doubt exposed the sinister deeds of modern 'Legrees."

Word Spreads

Word was broadcast throughout the vicinity that Anderson had shot and fatally wounded the overseer when he went to the colored American's home and forbid him and his family to move and ordered them to stay and work out a debt he alleged they owed.

Seize Victim

Friday when the frightened, half crazed Edwards was run down in a swamp in Tuscaloosa, by bloodhounds and taken into custody by deputies, a signal for the lynching spread like wild-fire. Sheriff Adams of Noxubee county left to get Anderson. As the sheriff and the marshal of Tuscaloosa were conveying the prisoner here they were met in the Tombigee bottoms by a mob of over 200 whites. The prisoner was seized without any resistance. He was taken a short distance and his body riddled with hundreds of bullets

Lynchings - 1927
Cases of.

Missouri.

2378

NEW YORK EVE. POST

MAY 2 8 1927

MISSOURI NEGRO LYNCHED

Strung Up by Hand and Shot for Alleged Attack on White Woman

Braggadocio, Mo., May 23 (AP).—Will Sherod, thirty, a negro, was lynched here last night after an alleged criminal assault on Mrs. Henry Shot, thirty-one, a widow with two children.

Shrod was strung up by the hands to a temporary scaffold in the town square and his body pierced with about twelve bullets. He had been taken from the Pemiscot County jail. The body still was hanging from the scaffold this morning.

BROOKLYN STANDARD UNION

MAY 2 4 1927

MISSOURI NEGRO LYNC...

CARUTHERSVILLE, Mo., 24 (U P).—Will Sherrod, a accused of attacking a white w was lynched by a mob which him from the Peniscot County hanged him on an improvised scaf fold and riddled his body with bullets.

NEW YORK TIMES

MAY 2 4 1927

NEGRO LYNCHED IN MISSOURI

Braggadocio Mob Strings Man Up by His Hands and Shoots Him.

BRAGGADOCIO, Mo., May 23 (AP).—Will Sherod, 30, a negro, was lynched here last night after an alleged attack on Mrs. Ella Henderson, 31, a widow with two children. Sherod was strung up by the hands to a temporary scaffold in the town square and his body pierced with a dozen bullets.

After the alleged attack Saturday night Mrs. Henderson called a constable and described her assailant. From this description the constable arrested Sherod.

The prisoner was taken to the Pemiscot County Jail at Caruthersville, fifteen miles east of here. About 10 o'clock last night a mob of about one hundred from Braggadocio went to the jail and took the negro to his home town and lynched him.

NEW YORK EVENING TELEGRAM & MAIL

MAY 2 4 1927

MOB LYNCHES NEGRO

Body on Improvised Scaffold Riddled with Bullets.

By the United Press.

CARUTHERSVILLE, Mo., May 24.—Will Sherrod, a negro, accused of attacking and killing a white woman, was lynched by a mob which took him from the Peniscot County Jail, hanged him on an improvised scaffold in the village of Braggadolio, near here, and riddled his body with bullets.

MISSOURIANS LYNCH NEGRO

Caruthersville, Mo., June 4—(AN D) A mob of about one hundred men stormed the county jail here Sunday night and took Will Sherrod, accused of criminally assaulting a white woman at Braggadocia, and lynched him.

Sherrod was arrested early Sunday morning and rushed here for safekeeping but when the mob appeared his safety was at an end. He was taken without the firing of a single shot and carried back to the scene of the crime of which he was accused.

There an improvised scaffold had been erected for the executition. The mob leaders carried him to the scaffold, suspended him by the wrists and then all of the members perforated his body with bullets.

Although the officers of the law knew that feeling against the man was at fever heat and that preparation were being made for his lynching, it is reported that little or nothing was done to save him from the mob or to resuce him while en route to Braggadocia. The affair, however, will be thoroughly investigated and the guilty parties "dealt with" orccording to the law.

MISSOURIANS STAGE REIGN OF TERROR, LYNCH 1

Frenzied Mob Storms Jail; Seizes Wounded Suspect And Shoot Him To Death

BRAGGADOCCIO, Mo., June 1.—Pemiscot county came back into an infamous limelight again Sunday night when a mob of 250 persons stormed the county jail at Caruthersville, overpowered the guard and dragged out a wounded suspect, Will Sherrod, age 30, accused of a serious crime against a Caucasian woman, and shot him to death on a pier in the public square. Last year this community—the hotbed of racial friction—was a scene of a series of brutalities against people of color. Many persons were beaten and several homes of innocent people were dynamited.

Arrested as Suspect

Sherrod was taken in custody early Sunday morning by Constable Orby Dye, in connection with the alleged attack upon Mrs. Henry Hendershot, 31, a widow and mother of two children. His arrest was based upon the partial description made by the woman which authorities claim dove-tailed with that of Sherrod. The accused man was in bed at the time the sheriff arrived and was shot twice when he attempted to evade arrest.

Stormed Jail

Sheriff J. H. Smith, in charge of the jail at the time when the mob approached, told reporters that he was unarmed at the time he went to the door. He said at first he thought the men were his deputies when they pounded for admittance. "We're going to get him if we have to tear down the jail," the leader is alleged to have said. Smith stated he persuaded the men to be seated and then tried to pacify them. As a response to this, he said two guns were leveled upon him while others seized one of the three men in the cell. "That's not the one!" cried the sheriff.

Sherrod Seized

Finally they seized Sherrod who was lying on the cold damp floor almost helpless because of the loss of blood from gun shot wounds received. He was bound and carried to automobiles. When asked if he recognized any of the men, the officer stated that they all wore masks.

The autos arrived at the public square of the little town a few minutes later. A rope was put around the suspect was strung up by his wrist. The lynchers are then said to have stepped back and riddled the dangling human target. The body was left there until the following day when the coroner arrived and ordered it cut down. The verdict of the coroner's jury was that Sherrod came to his death at the hands of a mob of persons unknown.

Second Lynching

The lynching was the second in Southeast Missouri in the past 30 months. Roosevelt Grigby, colored American, was lynched by a mob at Charleston, about 75 miles north of here, December 18, 1925, after he was said to have frightened a white high school girl. He was taken from officers in a room in the court house where he was being questioned. No one was sentenced in connection with the crime.

OFFICERS DO NOTHING TO CHECK MOB'S LUST

CARUTHERSVILLE, Mo., June 2.—(By A. N. P.)—A mob of about 100 men stormed the county jail here Sunday night and took Will Sherrod, accused of criminally assaulting a white woman at Braggadocia, and lynched him.

Sherrod was arrested early Sunday morning and rushed here for safekeeping, but when the mob appeared his safety was at an end. He was taken without the firing of a single shot and carried back to the scene of the crime of which he was accused.

There an improvised scaffold had been erected for the execution. The mob leaders carried him to the scaffold, suspended him by the wrists and then all of the members perforated his body with bullets.

Although the officers of the law know that feeling against the man was at fever heat and that preparations were being made for his lynching, it is reported that little or nothiny was done to save him from the mob or to rescue him while en route to Graggadocia. The affair, however, will be thoroughly investigated and the guilty parties "dealt with" according to the law.

ANOTHER LYNCHING; SAME OLD STORY

Caruthersville, Mo.—Lynched by a mob which took him from jail here, the body of Will Sherrod was found today, hanging in an improvised scaffold in the village of Braggadocia west of here.

Sherrod was accused of attacking Mrs. Henry Shot early yesterday. His body was strung up by the hands and pierced with bullets by the mob.

Another Negro Victim

BRAGGADOCIA, Mo., May 23.—Will Sherod, 30, a Negro, was lynched here last night after an alleged attack on Mrs. Ella Henderson, 31, a widow with two children. Sherod was strung up by the hands to a temporary scaffold in the town square and his body pierced with a dozen bullets.

After the alleged attack Saturday night, Mrs. Henderson called a constable and described her assailant. From this description the constable arrested Sherod.

The prisoner was taken to the Pemiscot County Jail at Caruthersville, fifteen miles east of here. About 10 o'clock last night a mob of about one hundred from Braggadocia went to the jail and took the Negro to his home town and lynched him.

2378

HANG COLORED MAN TO TREE AFTER ATTACK

Storm Jail, Take Victim; Riddles Body With Bullets

Braggadocio, Mo., May 27.—(Special).—Will Sherod, 30 years old, was found lynched here Monday night after he had been taken from the Pemiscott County jail at Caruthersville, 10 miles east of here where he was being held for an alleged attack on Mrs. Ella Hendershott, 31, at her home here early yesterday.

Sherod's body, strung up by the hands and with a dozen bullets in it, was still hanging from a hastily erected scaffold in the center of town when a coroner's jury was assembled at noon Tuesday by Dr. Ward Smith, coroner of Pemiscot County. The body was cut down and viewed by the jury. A verdict of death at the hands of a mob composed of persons unknown to the jury was returned by the jury. The sheriff made no arrests of members of the mob.

Claim He Attacked Widow

Sherod was alleged to have entered the home of Mrs. Hendershott, a widow with two children, about 12:30 a. m. Monday. After the attack the woman called Constable Orby Dye and described her assailant. Dye went to Sherod's home about dawn and comfwy home about dawn and found him asleep with a loaded revolver at his side. Dye succeeded in getting the revolver, but Sherod got away. When the man was about 50 yards away, Daye fired two shots, both taking effect and Sherod fell with wounds in the right arm and right shoulder. He was taken to Caruthersville and placed in jail.

The mob formed early last night and stormed the jail about ten o'clock and half an hour later, had lynched the man at Braggadocio.

Sheriff Han Smith at Caruthersville today said he was called to the jail front door last night and saw a crowd which he estimated to be between 75 and 150. Leaders told the sheriff they had come for Sherod and intended to lynch him. Smith said he tried to dissuade them, but while he was talking some of the members of the mob broke in the back door of the jail and took the man. They did not molest the two other colored prisoners.

Constable Dye and George Long Justice of the Peace, before whom Sherod lived in St. Louis where he had relatives. He came to Pemiscot County last September and had been employed for odd jobs by several farmers.

This was the first lynching on record for the little town, but the lynchers carried on their work in the style of veterans.

STATE AVERAGE OF LYNCHINGS IS NOW ONE A YEAR

Kansas City Call

Sunday Lynching Party at Braggadocio, Mo., Near 1924 Mob Killing

Kansas City, Mo.

MOB "WHITEWASHED"

BRAGGADOCIO, Mo. — The coroner's inquest Monday afternoon found Will Sherrod came to his death at the hands of a mob comprised of unidentified presons. There are only 1,000 persons in the whole town-ship of Braggadocio and the town itself has a population of 575.

FOUR YEARS—FOUR LYNCHINGS

The lynching last Sunday night at Braggadocio, Mo., brings the state average of mob killings since 1923 to one a year. The lynchings:

COLUMBIA, Mo.—Appril 28, 1923. John Scott, janitor at the University of Missouri, hanged from a bridge by a mob composed in part of students at the university. Alleged crime, assault on a young woman.

CHARLESTON, Mo. December 18, 1924. Roosevelt Grigsby, 20, was lynched and his body dragged through the streets of the town and burned. Accused of grabbing arm of white girl.

EXCELSIOR SPRINGS, Mo. —August 7, 1925. Walter Mitchell, dragged from jail, taken through town and hanged. Ray Cummings, then county prosecutor, (since forced out charged with abuse of office) made famous remark, "Justice has been done." Mitchell accused of attacking young white woman, but proved afterward to have been in league with white cattle thieves who framed him because he demanded his share.

BRAGGADOCIO, Mo.—May 22, 1927. Will Sherrod, taken from Pemiscot county jail in Caruthersville, shot and hanged Accused of attacking white widow.

CARUTHERSVILLE, Mo.—Braggadocio, a village about ten miles due west of this place, has pushed itself to braggart fame.

Sunday night, May 22, a mob dragged Will Sherrod, 30, from the Pemiscot county jail here and lynched him in Braggadocio. The body was found riddled with bullets, strung up to a tree by the hands.

Not Identified as Attacker

Sherrod was accused of attacking a white widow, sometime after midnight Saturday night. He was caught shortly after dawn Sunday morning and was brought here seriously wounded by two bullets fired by Orby Dye, constable.

The jail was stormed Sunday night by the mob and Sherrod carried to Braggadocio. So far as can be determined, Sherrod was not identified by Mrs. Hendershott as the man who is alleged to have attacked her. He was simply a suspect.

County in Ignorance

Southeast Missouri, in which Pemiscot county is located, is well known as being the most ignorant and benighted of all the sections of the state. The report of the state superintendent of school brands the educational facilities in that section as the worst in the state.

Pemiscot county, in which Braggadocio is located, is in the very southeast corner of the state, being bounded on the south by Arkansas and on the east by the Mississippi river and Tennessee.

Pemiscot county is separated from Mississippi county by little New Madrid county. It was in Charleston, Mo., in Mississippi county that a mob on December 18, 1924, lynched a Negro and dragged his body through the streets. This little southeast corner of the state, then, has added two lynchings to the state's record in slightly more than two years.

In addition to the lynchings, this section has also a period of rioting to its credit. The poor white farmers in 1925 resented the importation of Negro laborers for the newly developed cotton growing in this section. Some bloodshed resulted, but the militia was not called out.

Missourians Lynched Colored American

(By the Associated Negro Press.)

Caruthersville, Mo.—A mob of about one hundred men stormed the county jail here Sunday night and took Will Sherrod, accused of criminally assaulting a white woman at Braggadocia, and lynched him.

Sherrod was arrested early Sunday morning and rushed here for safekeeping, but when the mob appeared his safety was at an end. He was taken without the firing of a single shot and carried back to the scene of the crime of which he was accused.

There an improvised scaffold had been erected for the execution. The mob leaders carried him to the scaffold, suspended him by the wrists and then all of the members perforated his body with bullets.

Although the officers of the law knew that feeling against the man was at fever heat and that preparations were being made for his lynching, it is reported that little or nothing was done to save him from the mob or to rescue him while en route to Braggadocia. The affair, however, will be thoroughly "investigated" and the guilty parties "dealt with" according to the law.

Lynchings. 1927
Cases of

North Carolina.

2379

Church Goers Take Part in Celebration

Morgantown, N. C., July 8.—A mob estimated at more than 2,000 whites, business men and church workers, started the celebration of the Fourth of July at Linville Falls, 30 miles from here, Sunday by piercing the body of Broadus Miller, alleged slayer of a girl, with more than a hundred bullets.

The lynching ended the largest man hunt in the history of the state. Miller had been sought throughout the state for the past three months. Mob spirit dominated the state to such extent that Governor McLean ordered out two companies of national guardsmen and had the Asheville company held in readiness.

Miller succeeded in eluding the mobs until Sunday, when he was surprised in a house at Linville Falls. The house was quickly surrounded by law officers and the mob which awaited the appearance of Miller. When he opened the door and stood unarmed in the doorway, he was instantly shot down. Although Miller had died with the first volley, his body was seized and rushed here to be placed in the county jail for "safe-keeping."

By noon the news had spread throughout the entire region around this city and thousands of people in varying moods and temperaments began to pour into town and fill the streets about the courthouse.

Clamor to See Body

There was murmuring in the crowd that finally became a shout, for they were bent on seeing for themselves the remains of Miller.

Sheriff Halliburton, after a conference with other officials, decided to bring the body from behind lock and key, that the crowd, then numbering about 5,000, might see the lifeless form of him who had aroused their hatred.

Then the body, still dressed in tattered clothes, and his feet cloth-bound, remindful of twelve days of relentless flight through the mountains, was brought from the jail and placed on the steps outside.

In order to avoid congestion, Sheriff Halliburton roped off a narrow lane, permitting the crowd to march by in single file and view the slayer's body.

All through the afternoon the crowds passed and when the setting sun neared the rim of western mountains hundreds were still lined up in the street, awaiting their turn.

Two men stood at the end of the line as the crowd passed by and took up a collection. It is said that the fund amounted to over $500.

Soon after the body was removed from the county jail and placed on the steps. There was a determined shout for Burleson.

"Where is Burleson?" was the call that came from the mouths of that crowd. "We want Burleson."

Burleson was the mountaineer credited with having fired the shot that ended Miller's life. He was ushered to the highest place on the porch, above the body of the dead man, and as the hundreds milled past, Burleson was acknowledged as the hero. Once he held up his hand in appreciation of the tribute being shown him.

Late Sunday an atmosphere of unrest appeared prevalent in the crowd and county authorities, fearing that some attempt might be made to mutilate the remains of Miller, decided to take the body to some other town. Many members of the mob celebrated the lynching by getting drunk. Whisky was freely passed around among the crowd.

Placed On Train

The report became known on the streets and when Southern railway train No. 16, eastbound, passed here early in the evening, thousands were lined up at the railway station as officers placed the body in an express car, and a deputy sheriff was left to accompany it.

The destination was not made public, but newspaper men, who boarded the train, learned that it was bound for Statesville.

Pardon Commissioner Edwin Burke, personal representative of Governor McLean, announced to the mob of 5,000 whites which surrounded the jail that Burleson would receive the reward of $2,000 offered for Miller's capture, dead or alive.

White Paper Condemns Mob

The Raleigh Times, a white paper, discarded its prepared Fourth of July editorial for the one which condemned the action of the citizens and law enforcers in lynching Miller.

"The official end of Broadus Miller, hunted through the mountains for nearly two weeks, might as well be fixed according to the account that the many successful hunters brought back with his all but naked body, riddled with bullets.

"The official account is that Miller, charged with the slaying under brutal circumstances of a girl child, was encountered by Commodore Vanderbilt Burleson (note the nemenclature) high up in the fastnesses of Linville mountains. The Commodore was one of the advance of the young army that had been sweeping the rugged countryside with the thoroughness of a drag-net. Suddenly he came face to face with his quarry, backed up against a tree, like a bear brought to bay, armed with a gun and having the 'drop" on his pursuer. In spite of which the Commodore beat him to the draw, and Miller fell dead. He must have used a blunderbuss, for the many gaping wounds in the breast and stomach still were dripping when the corpse was delivered at Morgantown.

"We assume Miller's guilt. The chase for days had been one of the most persistent man hunts ever known in the state. Accept as facts the details of his resistance of arrest. He was an outlaw. His life was forfeit. His end came by 'due process,' and there was no lynching. But what of Morgantown? We lift a sanguine paragraph or so from the account of the ubiquitous Ben Dixon McNeill, who, if not in at the death, handled the brush while the stump was still wet:

"'Again grasping the figure by the feet, two men dragged it across the sidewalk, across the courthouse lawn, pausing a moment before the door and then going in. A vast throng collected with miraculous speed. They yelled in exultation. Women embraced one another and men shook one another by the hand and slapped one another on the back. Before the doors of the courthouse they all clamored for a sight of the dead, naked fugitive.

"'For half an hour they milled through the courthouse corridor, where the Negro lay in a huddled heap on the floor. Outside there arose a noisy demand that the corpse be brought out where everybody could see it. Some proposed to hang him up in sight of everybody and others demanded that he be dragged through the street behind an automobile. The crowd was not disorderly, but noticeably noisy. It was made up of all classes of people, and of all ages.

"'Finally Sheriff J. J. Halliburton compromised with himself and with the crowd. His own inclination was to send the body immediately to an undertaking establishment, but in the face of the demand from the throng, he permitted it to be dragged again by the feet to the middle of the lawn and laid out beside the fence which surrounds an imposing monument to the Confederacy. There it lay in the broiling sun for hours, while a vast throng fought and yelled and cursed and pushed for a chance to get a glimpse of it.'

"A sweet day for Morgantown society! And an arresting reflection on the bona fides of our protestation that as a state we are done with mob violence. When the automobile brought the dead body through the streets, the people were just emerging from church, meditating sermons. The siren announcing the kill changed them instantly from a collection of pious sheep and demure doves into a pack of wolves ravening after the event. Remembering our own city's hysteria when it turned out to view the dead bandit, we are neither critical nor censorious; just observant and sad."

The editorial from the Raleigh Times is on indication of how the fair-minded citizens of the state feel toward the atrocious lynching of Miller. Citizens throughout the state are disgusted at the action of the governor in disbanding the national guardsmen while a mob of two thousand whites were combing the state bent upon a lynching spree. Many prominent citizens who have always taken pride in the fact that their state gave its citizens justice and protection from mob violence, now are downcast since North Carolina has joined the other southern states in their lynch rule.

Lynchings - 1927

Cases of

Tennessee.

2380

MOBBERS TAKE ANOTHER TOLL IN TENNESSEE

Judge Lynch Is Still on War Path

Paris, Tenn., June 24.—A mob numbering more than one hundred and fifty whites staged a lynching here last Thursday when they riddled the body of Joseph Upchurch, an insane man, when bullets from the mob circled Upchurch's home in Indian fashion and sent volleys of bullets into the house where the crazed man had barricaded himself.

Upchurch visited the home of his sister-in-law Thursday morning and is alleged to have threatened her life, saying that his life had been threatened by members of a fraternal order. The woman went to the home of Charles Goldston, a deputy sheriff, on whose farm she worked, and Goldston called T. P. Caldwell, the sheriff. The men, accompanied by another deputy sheriff, went to Upchurch's home and attempted to force an entrance. Upchurch appeared at his front door and fired a shotgun point-blank at Caldwell, the charge striking the man just below the right shoulder. Caldwell staggered about 18 paces and dropped dead.

News of the shooting went like wildfire over the county and automobiles bearing heavily armed whites poured in from every direction. The condition of the roads, which had been made slippery by heavy rains, did not stop the whites from coming to take part in the brutal sport. Upchurch appeared at his door and calmly lighted his pipe as the mob grouped in front of his home and made its plans. The sheriff's posse on seeing Upchurch at the door began to close in on the house, but before the could reach the house hundreds of guns from the mob opened fire. Upchurch fell, his body peppered with shots from rifles and pistols. No arrests were made or inquest held.

ASSAILANT OF WOMAN IS SHOT DOWN BY MOB

Body of Negro Who Attempted Assault Is Found.

SEARCH FOR SLAYERS

Deputies Investigate Killing of Tommie Williams, Who Attempted to Assault Mrs. J. M. Miller At Her Home Tuesday.

Literally riddled with bullets, the body of Tommie Williams, 28, negro, lies buried in the potter's field, victim of the first mob violence to be perpetrated in Shelby county for several years.

Deputy sheriffs are quietly investigating the killing of the negro who attempted to assault Mrs. Jennie McCreight Miller, 51, at her home near Barrettsville, 20 miles from Memphis, early Tuesday morning. No arrests have been made but Sheriff Will S. Knight declares he will prosecute the guilty persons on charges of murder in the first degree if he is able to apprehend them.

Body Found Near Church.

The body of Williams, who sometimes carried the alias Tommie Doyle, was found yesterday morning in the Mudville churchyard, 2 miles from Barrettsville. Dave Meyers, farmer, made the discovery and notified the county morgue at once.

An inquest was called by Squire J. H. Barrett, and the jury's finding was to the effect that Williams met his death "from gunshot wounds inflicted by persons unknown." Relatives of the dead negro were informed of the tragedy, and due to the intense feeling existing in the vicinity of the attempted assault, his mother, who lives near Bolton College, requested that the body be buried in the potter's field. The negro was buried yesterday afternoon.

Williams, it is said, attempted to assault Mrs. J. M. Miller, a widow, about 7 o'clock Tuesday morning. Mrs. Miller successfully defended herself with a hoe. Hurriedly leaving the scene, the negro went to the store of Squire Barrett, borrowed $5, and purchased a small quantity of clothing. This bundle was found near his body yesterday morning.

Sheriff Will S. Knight was notified of the crime and immediately sent deputies to the scene in an effort to apprehend the negro before he could escape. No trace of him could be found by the officers until the riddled body was found lying in the churchyard.

Searching for Slayers.

Deputy Sheriffs Barbaro, Hendricks, Key, Davis, Brignadello, Cox and Palmer have been assigned to the case and are making efforts to get evidence which will lead to the identity of the slayers of the negro.

"I am convinced that the negro met his death at the hands of a mob," said Sheriff Knight yesterday. "It is the first evidence of mob violence which has occurred during my regime as sheriff, and I am going to do everything in my power to run the guilty persons to earth. The day of mob law is over in Shelby county, and if we can secure suficient evidence against the slayers they will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of my ability."

No arrests had been made at a late hour last night.

Mrs. Miller is a sister-in-law of the late W. M. Miller, who was prominent in Shelby county political circles for over 20 years.

NEGRO IS LYNCHED AT COURT HOUSE

Tennessee Mob Takes Alleged Assailant of Girl From Jail and Hangs Him From Courthouse Window

COLUMBIA, Tenn., Nov. 11. — Henry Choate, 18-year-old negro, was taken from the county jail here tonight and hanged from an alleged attack on an 16 year old white girl.

A mob which Sheriff T. C. Wiley previously had eluded, stormed the jail with sledge hammers shortly after 9 o'clock. Warning had been given that an attempt would be made to Lynch Choate, even though the widowed mother of his alleged victim, had urged that he be permitted to stand trial.

Choate was alleged to have confessed accosting the girl and beating her about the head with a pistol, just as the rope was placed about his neck on the courthouse steps.

He was then taken to the second floor and dropped from a window, facing the main street.

Approximately 300 men, many of them armed, were in the mob. Among the witnesses were James I. Finney, editor of the Nashville Tennesseean, Rev. E. E. Lavender, Presbyterian pastor, and other ministers who had been attending an American Legion banquet.

They endeavored to reach Governor Henry Horton at Nashville and enlist his influence.

The banquet committee pleaded with leaders of the crowd while a squad wielding hammers was smashing at the doors of the jail. Sheriff Luther C. Wiley and several of his deputies were inside when the attack began.

Sheriff Wiley said tonight that he unlocked Choate's cell door after the mob had swarmed into the jail and attacked the cage bars with their hammers, threatening to unloose all the prisoners. The main door, however was broken open with the heavy instruments, he stated.

The officers, giving up their attempt to dissuade the lynchers, made no physical resistance and were not harmed.

ASSAILANT OF WOMAN IS SHOT DOWN BY MOB

Body of Negro Who Attempted Assault Is Found.

SEARCH FOR SLAYERS

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"I am convinced that the negro met his death at the hands of a mob," said Sheriff Knight yesterday. "It is the first evidence of mob violence which has occurred during my regime as sheriff, and I am going to do everything in my power to run the guilty persons to earth. The day of mob law is over in Shelby county, and if we can secure suficient evidence against the slayers they will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of my ability."

No arrests had been made at a late hour last night.

Mrs. Miller is a sister-in-law of the late W. M. Miller, who was prominent in Shelby county political circles for over 20 years.

MOB STORMS JAIL, LYNCHES NEGRO

Columbia, Tenn., November 11.—(AP)—Henry Choate, 18-year-old negro was taken from the county jail here tonight and hanged for an alleged attempted attack on a 16-year-old white girl.

A mob which had previously been eluded by Sheriff L. C. Wiley, stormed the jail with sledge hammers shortly after 9 o'clock. It had given warning it would attempt to lynch Choate, even though the widowed mother of his alleged victim had urged that he be permitted to stand trial.

Choate was alleged to have confessed accosting the girl and beating her about the head with a pistol, just before the rope was placed about his neck on the courthouse steps.

He was then taken to the second floor and dropped from a window, facing the main street.

Approximately 350 men, many of them armed, were in the mob, and among the witnesses were James I. Finney, editor of The Nashville Tennesseean, Rev. E. E. Lavender, Presbyterian pastor, and other ministers who had been attending an American Legion banquet.

They endeavored to reach Governor Henry Horton at Nashville and enlist his influence.

The banquet committee pleaded with leaders of the crowd while a squad wielding the hammers was smashing at the doors of the jail. Sheriff Luther C. Wiley and several of his deputies were inside when the attack began.

The door was finally opened from the inside, Rev. J. R. Parsons declared. He followed the mob to the courthouse, still endeavoring to halt the proceedings, and said he heard Choate's confession.

door with sledge hammers and captured Choate.

At the Court House, where large crowds had gathered, Choate was said to have confessed beating the girl over the head with a pistol. The Rev. J. R. Parsons, one among a group of prominent citizens who endeavored to allow the law to take its course, declared he heard the confession.

A noose was placed about the neck of the Negro and he was hung from a second story window of the building.

Sheriff L. C. Wiley declared he unlocked Choate's cell door after the mob had rushed into the jail threatening to unloose all prisoners. He said the main door was battered down. The Rev. Mr. Parsons declared the door was unlocked from the inside.

NEW YORK
SUN and GLOBE
NOV 12 1927

MOB HANGS NEGRO FROM COURT HOUSE

Victim Confesses Attack on Girl in Tennessee.

COLUMBIA, Tenn., Nov. 12 (A. P.).—A citadel of justice here became the lynching spot for Henry Choate, 18 years old, a negro, a few hours after his alleged attack yesterday on a white girl here.

Several hours after officers had taken the negro into custody at a farm house where a blood-stained pistol was found a band of 350 men, many armed, successfully stormed the jail, battered the door with sledge hammers and captured Choate.

At the court house, where large crowds had gathered, Choate was said to have confessed beating the girl over the head with a pistol. The Rev. J. R. Parsons, one among a group of prominent citizens who endeavored to allow the law take its course, declared he heard the confession.

A noose was placed about the neck of the negro and he was hanged from a second story window of the building.

Sheriff L. C. Wiley declared he unlocked Choate's cell door after the mob had rushed into the jail threatening to release all prisoners. He said the main door was battered down. The Rev. Mr. Parsons declared the door was unlocked from the inside.

N. Y.
HERALD TRIBUNE
NOV 12 1927

Negro Lynched in Tennessee

COLUMBIA, Tenn., Nov. 11 (AP).—Henry Choate, eighteen-year-old Negro was taken from the county jail here to-night and hanged. He was accused of having attempted to attack a sixteen-year-old white girl.

BANNER
NASHVILLE, TENN.
NOV 12 1927

HANGED BY MOB AT COURTHOUSE

Alleged Assailant of Young Maury County Schoolgirl Lynched.

Columbia, Tenn., Nov. 12.—(Special.)—Henry Choate, 18, Negro, brought to jail here Friday afternoon, suspected of having attempted criminal assault upon a 16-year-old school girl living off the Williamsport pike, 10 miles from Columbia, was taken from the jail here shortly after 8 o'clock last night and hanged from the balcony over the West Seventh-street entrance of the courthouse.

Following the arrest of the young Negro at the home of his grandfather, Henry Harlan, Friday morning, men of the neighborhood began to gather at the home of the girl's uncle, Marvin Pickard, where she had gone after her terrifying experience. The suspect was taken there for identification. The young woman was ont able to idetnify Choate positively as her assailant, but there was strong circumstantial evidence against him, and Sheriff Luther C. Wiley had difficulty in getting the suspect away from the scene to bring him to jail here.

The mob of fifty or seventy-five men began forming about 8 o'clock Friday night. The members were armed with sledge-hammers, and, battering down the front door of the jail, rushed to the second floor, where the cells are located, threatening to wreck the building and release all the prisoners unless they were given the key to Choate's cell. Sheriff Wiley and his deputies appealed to the mob to let the law take its course, but without avail, and the key to the cell was handed over by one of the deputies, according to report.

The Armistice Day banquet of the Maury county legion was in progress at the Memorial building when the report was received of the appearance of the mob at the jail. The gathering sent a delegation to the scene to appeal to the angry men to let the law take its course. The committee was composed of the Rev. J. R. Parsons of the First Methodist church, Dr. B. L. Lavender of Garden-street Presbyterian church, and James I. Finney, Nashville editor. All made appeals to the mob leaders. The prisoner, however, was carried to the West Seventh street entrance of the courthouse. He is said to have made a confession here, on hearing which one of the mob is reported to have shouted, "That sends you to hell." He was struck down, and is thought to have been dead when a rope was put around his neck, the other end thrown over the balcony railing, and the body pulled up. A few minutes afterwards the body was cut down and claimed by members of his family.

At the time of the attack, early Friday morning, the young woman, the daughter of a highly respected widow, was on her way from her home on the Hicks road to the Williamsport pike to catch the school bus to Columbia. Attacked on the road, she resisted, fighting her assailant and screaming. She was struck on the forehead with the butt of a pistol, receiving a painful wound, also another under the eye. The assailant was frightened off, and the young woman ran to the Pickard home and told what had occurred.

Circuit Court will meet here in regular session Monday, and it is expected that Judge W. B. Turner will call the lynching to the attention of the grand jury.

NEW YORK EVE. POST
NOV 12 1927

Columbia, Tenn., Nov. 12 (AP).—A citadel of justice here became the lynching spot for Henry Choate, eighteen-year-old negro, a few hours after an alleged criminal attack yesterday on a white girl here.

Several hours after officers had taken the negro into custody at a farm house where a blood-stained pistol was found, a band of 350 men, many armed, successfully stormed the jail, battered the door with sledge hammers and seized Choate.

At the court house, where large crowds had gathered, Choate was said to have confessed beating the girl over the head with a pistol. The Rev. J. R. Parsons, one among a group of prominent citizens who endeavored to allow the law to take its course, declared he heard the confession.

A noose was placed about the neck of the negro and he was hanged from a second story window of the building.

Sheriff L. C. Wiley said he unlocked Choate's cell door after the mob had rushed into the jail threatening to unloose all prisoners. He said the main door was battered down. The Rev. Mr. Parsons declared the door was unlocked from the inside.

TENN. MOB LYNCHES RACE BOY

Armistice Day Celebration Turned Into A Scene of Hatred By Gruesome Slaying

COLUMBIA, Tenn., Nov. 16.—While Armistice day celebration was in progress here, a mob composed of 350 whites broke into the Maury county jail and took an 18-year-old colored youth, who was being held as a suspect in an attempted assault upon a 16-year-old white girl, and threw him from the second-story window of the courthouse in the center of the town with a rope around his neck.

Was Not Identified

Henry Choates, the mob's victim, had been taken before his alleged victim a few hours before and she had failed to identify him as her assailant. But the blood-thirsty crowd frightened their victim so that he was said to have admitted to have tried to attack the girl.

The American Legion was holding a celebration of the winding of the World War in which hundreds of the members of the helpless mob's prey's race fought, bled and died, that democracy might continue in America, when the mob surrounded the jail. All appeals to patriotism and respect for the laws of the country failed. The legionnaires were only powerful enough to threaten that they would elect a sheriff who would protect his prisoners in the jail instead of the incumbent, who permitted the lynching. At the election held Saturday the sheriff who surrendered his keys to the mob was defeated in his campaign for re-election by a large vote.

Mob Members Go Free

Although a white minister, Rev. J. K. Parsons, was able to give a vivid account of the lynching and tell of hearing the victim confess and his savages captors reply, "well Henry, that sends you to hell," before they shove him from the courthouse window to snap his neck at the end of a rope thirty feet below, he was unable to identify a single member of the mob in which he mingled so freely.

Efforts to locate Governor Horton at Centerville in order to enlist the aid of the state militia encamped here failed.

The mob broke into he jail with sledge hammers, according to the sheriff, but examination showed the door had been opened from the inside. The sheriff said he surrendered the keys to Choates cell, when the mob threatened to demolish the jail.

The girl who the youth was said to have attempted to assault alleged that she was on her way to high school when the attacker grabed her by the arm, but that she frightened him off after a struggle.

The mob permitted the boy's parents to cut the body down after it had hung for some time.

NEW YORK
EVE. WORLD
NOV 12 1927

MOB IN TENNESSEE LYNCH NEGRO, HELD ON ASSAULT CHARGE

Break Into Jail and Hang Him From Window After Cowing Sheriff

COLUMBIA, Tenn., Nov. 12 (A.P.)—A citadel of justice here became the lynching spot for Henry Choate, eighteen-year-old Negro, a few hours after his alleged criminal attack yesterday on a white girl here.

Several hours after officers had taken the Negro into custody at a farm house where a bloodstained pistol was found, a band of 350 men, many armed, successfully stormed the jail, battered the

Lynchings - 1927

Tennessee.

2381

Cases of

TENNESSEE MOB LYNCHES NEGRO ARMISTICE DAY

Youth Is Hanged From Courthouse Porch Amid Holiday Decorations.

Columbia, Tenn., Nov. 16.—(By the Associated Negro Press.)—With the Amreican flags yet waving and the courthouse bedecked in holiday regalia a group of courageous and chivalrous white men closed the tenth annual celebration of the close of the war for democracy by lynching Henry Choate, an eighteen year-old Negro youth who was suspected of having attempted to assault a sixteen-year-old white girl.

The youth was hanged from the balcony of the courhouse, from which speakers during the day had spokne in eloquent terms of America's part in the great World War and had pointed proudly to the flag as the emblem of justice, protection and freedom for oppressed people. Underneath one of these flags, hung at 9 o'clock Friday evening, the lifeless body of a youth whose race had its bit in upholding Americanism and the glory of America.

Choate was arrested Friday afternoon and carried before the white girl upon whom the assault was alleged to have been attempted. The girl, although fully recovered from her experience, could not and did not fasten the crime upon the youth. He was carried to the jail and in spite of the knowledge that a mob was preparing to lynch him, no extra precaution was taken to protect the boy who declared he was innocent.

At eight o'clock the mob, composed of about seventy-f... armed with sledge ... revolvers, appeared at the jail and demanded Sheriff Luther Wiley to hand over the keys. After pleading with the mob for a few minutes, he handed over the keys and the mob rushed to the cell occupied by Choate, who protested his innocence and prayed for mercy. His pleading was to no avail and he was hurried to the courthouse and there hanged.

Tennesseeans Lynch Lad, 18

Had Been Accused of Attack on White Girl

COLUMBIA, Tenn., Nov. 14.—A citadel of justice here became the lynching spot for Henry Choate, a lad 18 years old, a few hours after his alleged attack on a white girl here Friday.

Several hours after officers had taken Choate into custody at a farm house, where a blood-stained pistol was found, a band of 350 men, many armed, successfully stormed the jail, battered the door with sledge hammers and captured Choate.

At the courthouse, where large crowds had gathered, Choate was said to have confessed beating the girl over the head with a pistol. The Rev. J. R. Parsons, one among a group of prominent citizens who endeavored to let the law take its course, declared he heard the confession.

Choate was hanged from a second story window of the building.

Sheriff L. C. Wiley declared he unlocked Choate's cell door after the mob had rushed into the jail, threatening to release all prisoners. He said the main door was battered down. The Rev. Mr. Parsons declared the door was unlocked from the inside.

Atlanta, G. CONSTITUTION

NOV 12 1927

MOB STORMS JAIL, LYNCHES NEGRO

Columbia, Tenn., November 11.—(AP)—Henry Choate, 18-year-old negro, was taken from the county jail here tonight and hanged for an alleged attempted attack on a 16-year old white girl.

A mob which had previously been eluded by Sheriff L. C. Wiley, stormed the jail with sledge hammers shortly after 9 o'clock. It had given warning it would attempt to lynch Choate, even though the widowed mother of his alleged victim had urged that he be permitted to stand trial.

Choate was alleged to have confessed accosting the girl and beating her about the head with a pistol, just before the rope was placed about his neck on the courthouse steps.

He was then taken to the second floor and dropped from a window facing the main street.

Approximately 350 men, many of them armed, were in the mob, and among the witnesses were James I. Finney, editor of The Nashville Tennesseean, Rev. E. E. Lavender, Presbyterian pastor, and other ministers who had been attending an American Legion banquet.

They endeavored to reach Governor Henry Horton at Nashville and enlist his influence.

The banquet committee pleaded with leaders of the crowd while a squad wielding the hammers was smashing at the doors of the jail. Sheriff Luther C. Wiley and several of his deputies were inside when the attack began.

The door was finally opened from the inside, Rev. J. R. Parsons declared. He followed the mob to the courthouse, still endeavoring to halt the proceedings, and said he heard Choate's confession.

St. Petersburg, Fla., Times

NOV 12 1927

TENNESSEE MOB LYNCHES NEGRO AFTER ASSAULT

Alleged Attack on Girl Is Cause of Death; Dropped From Court House

COLUMBIA, Tenn., Nov. 11.—(AP)—Henry Choate, 18 year old negro, was taken from the county jail here tonight and hanged for an alleged attempted attack on a 16-year old white girl.

A mob which had previously been eluded by Sheriff L. C. Wiley stormed the jail with sledge hammers shortly after 9 o'clock. It had given warning that it would attempt to lynch Choate, even though the widowed mother of his alleged victim had urged that he be permitted to stand trial.

Confession Claimed.

Choate was alleged to have confessed accosting the girl and beating her about the head with a pistol, just as the rope was placed about his neck on the courthouse steps.

He was then taken to the second floor, and dropped from a window, facing the main street.

Approximately 350 men, many of them armed, were in the mob, and among the witnesses were James I. Finney, editor of the Nashville Tennessean, Rev. E. E. Lavender, Presbyterian pastor, and other ministers who had been attending an American Legion banquet.

They endeavored to reach Governor Henry Horton at Nashville and enlist his influence.

Jail Broken In.

The banquet committee pleaded with leaders of the crowd while a squad wielding the hammers was smashing at the doors of the jail. Sheriff Luther C. Wiley, and several of his deputies were inside when the attack began.

The door was finally opened from the inside, Rev. J. R. Parsons declared. He followed the mob to the courthouse, still endeavoring to halt the proceedings, and said he heard Choate's confession.

Sheriff Wiley admitted tonight that he unlocked Choate's cell door after the mob had swarmed into the jail and attacked the cage bars with their hammers, threatening to unloose all the prisoners. The main door, however, was broken open with the heavy instruments, he stated.

The officers, giving up their attempt to dissuade the lynchers, made no physical resistance and were not harmed

Lynchings- 1927

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2382

Mob Overcomes Police, Grabs Negro, Hangs Him

Willis, Tex., Feb. 2.—(AP)—Tom Payne, 25, Negro, was taken from two officers by a mob near Willis last night and hanged to a roadside tree. Payne, a saw mill worker, had been arrested for assault to murder in connection with an attack on Jack Rogers, a saw mill worker. Rogers, whose throat was cut, will recover.

N. Y. WORLD

FEB 3 1927

NEGRO LYNCHED BY TEXANS

Mob Seizes Man Held by Police on Charge of Slashing White

Special Despatch to The World

HOUSTON, Tex., Feb. 2.—A masked mob of Texans last night hanged a Negro, Tom Payne, thirty-five, to a tree on the roadside at Conroe, near here.

Payne was being taken in an automobile by two officers to Huntsville State Prison for safe keeping. Five miles from Conroe three cars blocked the road. Masked men disarmed the officers, dragged the Negro from the car, looped a rope around his neck, hauled him free of the ground and left him to strangle. He was accused of cutting the throat of Jack Rogers, a saw mill worker, who is in a hospital at Conroe and will recover. He identified Payne as the Negro who had attacked and robbed him.

NEW YORK TIMES

FEB 3 1927

NEGRO LYNCHED IN TEXAS.

Mob Disarms Two Officers and Hangs Accused Man.

WILLIS, Texas, Feb. 2 (AP).—Tom Payne, 25, a negro, was taken from two officers by an unmasked mob of white men near Willis last night and hanged to a roadside tree.

Payne, a sawmill worker, had been arrested yesterday and charged with assault to murder in connection with an attack on Monday night on Jack Rogers, a white sawmill worker. Rogers, whose throat was cut, will recover.

Fearing mob violence, the negro was being taken by two officers to Huntsville for safekeeping when they were surrounded by a mob on the road about four miles from Willis and disarmed.

The negro had been identified by Rogers earlier in the day as his assailant.

COLUMBIA, S. C.

Record

FEB 2 1927

NEGRO IS LYNCHED IN TEXAS

WILLIS, Texas, Feb. 2—(AP)—Tom Payne, 25-year-old negro, was taken from two officers by an unmasked mob of white men near Willis last night and hanged to a roadside tree.

JOURNAL

Dallas, Tex

FEB 2 1927

NEGRO LYNCHED IN SOUTH TEXAS

HOUSTON, Texas, Feb. 2 (UP).—Tom Payne, negro, 50, was taken away from Montgomery County Deputy Sheriffs Tuesday night and hanged to a tree near Conroe, it was revealed today by J. W. Strode, County Attorney of Montgomery County.

Payne was arrested late Monday and charged with assault to murder after Jack Rogers, sawmill worker, was found in a pasture near the city with his throat cut, badly beaten and robbed of $68.

Rogers regained consciousness Tuesday and Sheriff Ben Hick took Payne to his bedside, where Rogers is said to have positively identified the negro as his assailant.

2382

TRIBUNE

Blackwell, Okla

FEB 4 1927

TEXAS COMES BACK

After what seems a most unnecessary delay, Texas must feel that at last she has got started off right for the year 1927. A Texas mob has "lynched a nigger."

Those familiar with the progressive spirit of Texas citizens which usually keeps their state just a little ahead of the band wagon in the matter of lynching "niggers" will have some difficulty in understanding why two whole months of the new year were permitted to pass before they staged an event of their favorite state game. Possibly the excitement attending the passing of "Ma" had something to do with it, but whatever may have given the state a somewhat late start, having now got started, it is pretty safe to assume that for the rest of the year no one will have occasion to mourn the seeming decadence of the Lone Star State's great sport.

Anway, the enthusiasm with which forty loyal Texans took from the unresisting hands of officers a man under arrest, but against whom no charge had yet been filed, to say nothing of his not having had any form of trial against whom no evidence of guilt had been adduced, and who was in custody because some boys had told officers that they had seen a negro man and woman—not any particular man and woman, just a negro man and woman—in the vicinity of the spot where was found a white man who had been stabbed, beaten and robbed may in a measure make up for the derelectness that had allowed the first two months of the year to pass before Texas had a lynching to her credit. The woman has not yet been lynched, but she is in jail, and the year is not very old yet.

Speaking of "Ma," were it not for the fact that the citizens of Texas have always shown their deep respect for law and their enthusiasm for its enforcement by hanging "niggers" accused or suspented of crime, one might think that possibly the former governor's penchant for turning prisoners out of the penitentiary faster than the courts can send them there prompted this band of patriotic citizens to take somewhat summary action in the case of a negro against whom nothing had been proven and who had been given no opportunity to show his innocence of the crime for which he was arrested, but as matters are, this lynching will be charged to the inherent [illegible] a mob to kill someone, and a negro in the hands of a couple of officers is a pretty safe proposition for a band of forty gallant men to tackle.

For a mob is potentially cruel, in addition to being potentially cowardly. The officers who had this negro in custody would not have had forty men to face, had they seen fit to make any effort for the protection of their prisoner. There are exceptions, of course, but the average mob is composed of one or two leaders and the rabble. The leaders are the only ones who have to really be dealt with in efforts to disperse the mob. With the leaders out of the way, the rest of the mob is just about as dangerous as a rattlesnake with its fangs removed. It has the wish to strike, but it hasn't the nerve. There have been too many instances in which one or two determined officers have cowed raging mobs to leave any doubt of the truth of the proposition that the average mob is a potential coward.

However, some think there are still plenty of "niggers" in Texas, and the one hanged Tuesday night will not be greatly missed. Maybe he had nothing to do with the crime with which he was charged, and maybe the real criminal will be discovered later. In that case, there will be all the materials at hand for another lynching.

JOURNAL

Dallas, Tex

FEB 3 1927

Conroe Lynching Leaves Both Races Good-Natured

CONROE, Texas, Feb. 3.—Conroe was quiet today, displaying no indication that a lynching had taken place near here.

Whites and negroes mingled freely on the streets as they went about their work. Both races seemed to take the attitude that the hanging was for the good of the community.

Negroes expressed the sentiment that "Old Tom was a bad negro" and that "both races would get along better now that he was gone."

Whites showed little disposition to talk of the affair until questioned and then spoke of it as "just another incident in the history of this town."

Tom Payne, negro, 50, was lynched Tuesday night, after he had attacked and cut a sawmill worker's throat.

POLICE OF TEXAS MAKE NO EFFORT TO ARREST MOB

County Att'y Is Vague And Uncertain On Work Done To Apprehend Lynchers

CONROE, Tex., Feb. 23.—Despite the appeal of citizens here that steps be taken to apprehend the lynchers of Tom Payne, aged 25, little has been accomplished and it is believed no further effort will be made to arrest or punish the offenders. No arrests in connection with the lynching had been made up to Monday and leading law-enforcement officials when questioned in regard to the work being done by police were vague and evasive in their answers.

Mrs. Hattie Payne, wife of the mob victim, is being held on a charge of assault with intent to murder in connection with an alleged attack upon Jack Roger. Roger, who is a Caucasian, is employed in a mill in this city. The accused woman stoutly denies that she is in any way implicated in such an attack and declares that her husband is innocent.

Payne a Suspect

Payne was hanged after being taken from two Montgomery County officers, who were taking him to Huntsville. He had been arrested on suspicion following the finding of Rogers in a pasture near here with his throat cut. The lynching occurrred about 1 o'clock Tuesday night on a roadside four miles from Conroe. Rogers wound was found to be slight. He is expected to be released from the hospital here this week.

Little Action Taken

County Attorney J. W. Strode, of Montgomery County, Monday had "nothing definite to give out" on investigation of the lynching. When questioned, he declared the grand jury will not meet until May and no special term had been called to probe the crime. Little could be learned from Judge J. L. Manry, who is conducting court in Polk County, and Sheriff Ben Hicks who has left town.

The county attorney was indefinite as to who and how many had been questioned about the lynching.

"Certainly men have been questioned," he said in answer to the query. "I don't know how many or who they were. J. L. Pitts, district attorney, who is my law partner, could tell more about that, but he is out of town."

When asked if he was not present when persons were questioned, Strode said "Sometimes, but I coudn't be in a dozen places at once."

"Were there more than a dozen questioned?" he was asked.

"I don't know. I haven't anything to give out,' he said.

"Were those questioned white men?"

"Certainly they were," Strode replied.

UNMASKED MOB LYNCH

IN TEXAS—ATTACKING WHITE MAN ONLY CHARGE—SHERIFF ADMITS NO RESISTANCE—VICTIM HELPLESS BECAUSE IN HANDS OF OFFICERS OF THE LAW—THE LIMIT REACHED—ON TO WASHINGTON, FROM EVERY PLACE, TO PETITION

Willis, Tex., Feb. 2, 1927.—Investigation of the lynching of Tom Payne, Colored, 25-years-old, who was seized from two officers near here last night and hanged by a party of about 40 unmasked white men, failed to develop any clues as to the identity of the lynchers, Sheriff Ben Hicks of Montgomery county said tonight.

Sheriff Admits No Resistance

The two officers reported they recognized nine of the mob, Sheriff Hicks said. No resistance was made as it would have been useless, the officers declared.

Robbery and Attack of Man Only Charge

The man was arrested yesterday near Conroe charged with attacking and robbing Jack Rogers, white, a sawmill employee.

The boys said they had seen a Colored man and woman running from the pasture. Arrest of Payne and his wife followed. She is in jail at Conroe charged with assault to murder.

Murdered When On Way For Safety

Payne was being taken to the state penitentiary at Huntsville for safekeeping when the mob seized him. Rogers, who identified him, is expected to recover.

TEXAS MOB HANGS AGED RACE MAN

Unmasked Band Takes Prisoner Who Fought A White Man, From Officers Without Shot Being Fired

WILLIS, Tex., Feb. 2 — Associated Press reports tell of the lynching of a colored American, Tom Payne, 25 years old, near this city Tuesday night.

Meager accunts say that the colored citizen was taken from officers by a band of unmasked white men and hanged to a tree. Payne was accused of injuring one of the white workers in a fight at a saw mill where he worked. The lynchers were other mill hands. Rogers was not seriously hurt.

This is the first lynching that has occurred during the present year. Seven lynchings occurred in Texas last year. Only one other state, Florida, had a larger number. The case of five whites under $20,000 bail for the lynching of three colored Americans on a ranch near Houston last fall is scheduled to come up before the Fort Bend County grand jury in March.

UNMASKED MOB LYNCH

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Murdered When On Way to Safety

Payne was being taken to the state penitentiary at Huntsville for safekeeping when the mob seized him. Rogers, who identified him, is expected to recover.

Suspect Lynched By Mob of Texans

WILLIS, Tex., Feb. 10.—Tom Payne, aged 25 years, was taken from two officers by an unmasked mob of white men near here last week and hanged to a roadside tree He was charged with assault on a white man. The alleged victim will recover.

WILKES BARRE, PA. Record

FEB 3 1927

NEGRO IS LYNCHED BY MOB IN TEXAS

Man Charged With Robbing Another Taken From the Sheriff and Hanged

Willis, Texas, Feb. 2 (AP).—Investigation of the lynching of Tom Payne, 25 year old negro, who was seized from two officers near here last night and hanged to a tree by a party of about forty unmasked white men, failed to develop any clues as to the identity of the lynchers, Sheriff Ben Hicks of Montgomery county said to-night.

The two officers reported they recognized none of the mob, Sheriff Hicks said. No resistance was made it would have been useless, the officers declared.

The negro was arrested yesterday near Conroe charged with attacking and robbing Jack Rogers, a sawmill employee. Two small boys had found Rogers in a pasture with his throat cut. He had been clubbed over the head and his watch and money were missing.

Rogers, who identified the negro, is expected to recover.

Texas Mob Commits Revolting Crime

(Preston News Service)

HOUSTON, Tex., Feb. 10—A masked mob of Texans last Tuesday night hanged Tom Payne, 25, to a tree on the roadside at Conroe, near here. Payne was being taken in an automobile by officers to Huntsville State Prison for safekeeping. Five miles from Conroe three cars blocked the road. Masked men disarmed the officers, dragged the victim from the car, looped a rope around his neck, hauled him free from the ground and left him to strangle.

He was accused of cutting the throat of Jack Rogers, a sawmill worker who is in a hospital at Conroe and will recover. He identified Payne as the man who had attacked and robbed him.

NEGRO LYNCHED BY TEXAS MOB

WILLIS, Texas, Feb. 2.—Tom Payne, 25, a Negro, was taken from two officers by an unmasked mob of white men near Willis last night and hanged to a roadside tree.

Payne, a sawmill worker, had been arrested yesterday and charged with assault to murder in connection with an attack on Monday night on Jack Rogers, a white sawmill worker. Rogers, whose throat was cut, will recover.

Fearing mob violence, the Negro was being taken by two officers to Huntsville for safe keeping when they were surrounded by a mob on the road about four miles from Willis and disarmed.

The Negro had been identified by Rogers earlier in the day as his assailant.

Unmasked Texas Mob Lynches Man

WILLIS, Tex., Feb. 7.—Tom Payne, 25, was taken from two officers by an unmasked mob of white men near Willis last Wednesday night and hanged to a roadside tree.

Payne, a sawmill worker, had been arrested the day before and charged with assault to murder in connection with an attack on Monday night on Jack Rogers, a white sawmill worker. Rogers, whose throat was cut, will recover.

Fearing mob violence, the man was being taken by two officers to Huntsville for safe keeping when they were surrounded by a mob on the road about four miles from Willis and disarmed.

Payne, it is said, had been identified by Rogers earlier in the day as his assailant.

Negro Lynched by Texas Mob; Police Use Little Effort Seeking Culprits

WILLIS, Texas, Feb. 4.— Police made no arrests today for the brutal lynching of Tom Payne, 25, a Negro, who was taken from two officers by an unmasked mob of white men near Willis yesterday night and hanged to a roadside tree.

Payne, a sawmill worker, had been arrested and charged with assault in connection with an assault on Jack Rogers, a white sawmill worker, who was slashed by an unknown person on Monday night. Rogers is in the hospital here, and will recover.

Fearing mob violence, the Negro was being taken by two officers to Huntsville for safekeeping when they were surrounded by a mob on the road and disarmed. Little effort is being made to bring the members of the lynching party to justice.

Lynchings-1927
Cases of.

NEGRO IS LYNCHED AS KENTUCKY KILLER

Alleged Slayer Is Taken From Jail Into Virginia and There Shot, Then Burned.

VIRGINIANS ARE BLAMED

Stand From Which New Interstate Highway Was Dedicated Is Used for Funeral Pyre.

JENKINS, Ky., Nov. 30 (AP).—Leonard Woods, 35-year-old negro accused of having slain a Virginian, was lynched on Virginia soil by a mob composed largely of Virginians, Harry L. Moore, County Attorney of Letcher County, Ky., said here tonight after an investigation.

Woods was removed from the county jail at Whitesburg shortly after midnight and taken to the Virginia-Kentucky line, where he was lynched. He had been arrested charged with killing Hershel Deaton, 35, of Wise County, Va. Deaton was employed as a mine foreman at Fleming, Ky.

Following submission of his report to Governor William J. Fields at Frankfort, probably tomorrow, Mr. Moore said it would be "entirely proper" and in keeping with custom for the Governor to address a protest to Governor Harry Flood Byrd of Virginia, asking for an investigation.

Sam H. Privitt, Chief of Police of Jenkins, corroborated Mr. Moore's statement that the mob was made up principally of Virginia citizens, several of whom he "thought" he recognized. Virginia license plates were on a majority of the automobiles which escorted the negro from Whitesburg through Jenkins to the scene of the lynching at Pound Gap, just across the Virginia line, a few miles from here, Mr. Privitt said. Some were Kentucky cars and a few were from West Virginia.

The mob was composed of about four hundred men when it stormed the Whitesburg Jail and broke in through the roof, Mr. Moore estimated. He placed the damage to the building at between $500 and $600. About one-third of the mob wore masks. These, he assumed, were Kentuckians. The crowd had grown to 1,000 at the time of the lynching.

Woods was shot to death as he faced a half circle of rifles. Then his body was placed on a platform recently erected for the dedication ceremonies at the opening of the Kentucky-Virginia highway. Gasoline was poured over it and a match touched off the structure.

The negro had been arrested near Fleming shortly after Deaton's body was found Sunday. Growing excitement caused officers to take their prisoner to Whitesburg yesterday for safekeeping. Late last night a motorcade of more than 150 cars arrived in Whitesburg. A throng of men approached the jail, sawed through its iron bars, placed a chain around the negro's neck and led him away.

Mrs. Fess Whittaker, the jailer, said that the mob made no demonstration at the jail. She was powerless to resist the intruders, she said. Two negro women, who were arrested with Woods in connection with the slaying, were unmolested.

Deaton was shot to death when he refused to allow Woods and the two women to ride in his automobile Sunday night, authorities charged.

The Governor of Kentucky heretofore has pursued a policy of summary dismissal from office of any jailer or State authority who has permitted the removal of his charges by unauthorized persons without physical resistance. Mrs. Whittaker is the first woman officer to have become involved in such an affair in the State.

NEW YORK
TELEGRAPH
DEC 1 1927

LYNCH AND BURN NEGRO SLAYER

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Nov. 30 (U. P.)—Leonard Wood, negro, was lynched by a mob near Jenkins, Ky., after his arrest for the murder of a mine foreman.

Wood was shot by the mob, which formed a half circle around him.

Gasoline was poured on the negro's body and set afire.

The lynching took place on top of Cumberland Mountain.

A platform recently erected for dedication ceremonies of the opening of the Kentucky-Virginia highway was used as a pyre and the flames from the negro's body were visible over the line into Virginia.

The mob, estimated to consist of 225 armed men, sawed the bars of the jail. A chain was placed about the neck of the hapless negro and he was dragged to a motor car.

The first attempt of the mob to get the prisoner had been balked by an eight-foot fence. Six shots were fired at the lock, but it held. Then the wall was scaled, the cell broken into and Woods dragged out. Two women in the prison were released without harm.

Virginia.

The motorcade, numbering more than 150 cars, followed the trail to the mountain top. Quickly the mob formed in a semi-circle about the negro. Then, as if by signal, they began firing at the helpless black man.

The mob spirit burned itself out with the fire which consumed the negro's body as it lay on the platform.

N. Y.
HERALD TRIBUNE
DEC 1 1927

Virginia Mob Helps to Lynch Kentucky Negro

Slayer of White Mine Foreman Shot and Burned on Border Platform Where 2 States Lately Joined Hands

Throng Wrecks Jail Roof

Blue Grass Prosecutor Says Prisoner Met Death Over Line and Asks Inquiry

By The Associated Press

JENKINS, Ky., Nov. 30.—Leonard Woods, thirty-five-year-old Negro slayer, was lynched on Virginia soil this morning by a mob composed largely of Virginians, Harry L. Moore, County Attorney of Letcher County, Ky., said here to-night after an investigation.

Woods was removed from the county jail at Whitesburg shortly after midnight and taken to the Virginia-Kentucky line on top of Cumberland Mountain, where he was shot to death and his body burned for killing Hershel Deaton, thirty-five years old, of Wise County, Va. Deaton was employed as a mine foreman at Fleming, Ky.

Following submission of his report to Governor Fields at Frankfort, probably to-morrow, Mr. Moore said it would be "entirely proper" and in keeping with custom for the Governor to address a protest to Governor Byrd of Virginia asking for an investigation.

Sam H. Privitt, chief of police of Jenkins, corroborated Mr. Moore's statement that the mob was made up principally of Virginia citizens, several of whom he "thought I recognized." Virginia license plates were on a majority of the automobiles which escorted the Negro from Whitesburg through Jenkins to the scene of the lynching at Pound Gap, just across the Virginia line a few miles from here, Privitt said. some were Kentucky cars and a few were from West Virginia.

The mob was composed of about 400 men, Mr. Moore estimated, when it stormed the Whitesburg jail and broke in through the roof. He said the building was damaged to the extent of between $500 and $600. About one-third of the mob wore masks. These, he assumed, were Kentuckians. The crowd had grown to 1,000 at the time of the lynching.

Soaring flames from the top of the mountain signaled the death of Woods. He was arrested for the slaying of Deaton, who refused to give him a ride in his auto, and was shot to death as he

NEW YORK
EVE. WORLD
NOV 30 1927

KENTUCKY MOB LYNCHES NEGRO HELD IN KILLING

Taken From Jail by 200 Armed Men and Shot —Body Burned

JENKINS, Ky., Nov. 30 (A. P.)—Soaring flames mounting from the top of Cumberland Mountain signalled the death of Leonard Woods, Negro, who was lynched by a mob of more than 200 armed men early to-day.

Woods, arrested for the slaying of Marshall Deaton, thirty-five, mine foreman for the Elkton Coal Corporation at Fleming, Ky., was shot to death as he faced a half circle of rifles. Then his body was placed on a platform recently erected for the dedication ceremonies at the opening of the Kentucky-Virginia highway. Gasoline was poured over it and a match touched off the structure.

The Negro had been arrested near Fleming shortly after Deaton's body was found Sunday. He was taken to Whitesburg yesterday for safe keeping. Late last night a motorcade of more than 150 cars arrived in Whitesburg. An unmasked throng of men approached the jail, sawed through its iron bars, placed a chain around the Negro's neck and led him away.

Mrs. Fess Whittaker, the jailer, said that the mob made no demonstration at the jail. She was powerless to resist the intruders, she said. Two Negro women who were arrested with Woods in connection with the slaying were unmolested.

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BROOKLYN STANDARD UNION
NOV 30 1927

2383

Mob Kills Negro On Mountain Top, Sets Fire to Body

Platform Erected for Highway Dedication Used as Kentucky Pyre.

JENKINS, Ky., Nov. 30.—A mob early to-day took Leonard Woods, a negro, from jail and shot him to death. Then the mob poured kerosene on the body and set it on fire.

The lynching occurred on top of Cumberland Mountain. A platform, recently erected for dedication ceremonies of the opening of the Kentucky-Virginia Highway, was used as a pyre and the flames from the negro's body were visible over the line into Virginia.

The mob, estimated to consist of 225 armed men, sawed the bars of the jail at Whitesburg, where Woods had been removed for safe keeping. A chain was placed about the neck of the negro and he was dragged to a motor car and taken to Fleming, where the lynching occurred.

Woods was accused of killing Hershe Deaton, foreman of the Elkhorn Coal Corp., at Fleming.

BROOKLYN EAGLE
NOV 30 1927

MOB LYNCHES NEGRO AND FIRES HIS BODY

Arrested in Shooting, Man Is Taken From Kentucky Jail.

Jenkins, Ky., Nov. 30 (AP)—Soaring flames mounting from the top of Cumberland Mountain signaled the death of Leonard Woods, negro, who was lynched by a mob of more than 200 armed men early today.

Woods, arrested for the slaying of Marshall Deaton, 35, mine foreman for the Elkton Coal Corporation at Fleming, Ky., was shot to death as he faced a half circle of rifles. Then his body was placed on a platform recently erected for the dedication ceremonies at the opening of the Kentucky-Virginia Highway. Gasoline was poured over it and a match touched off the structure.

The negro, arrested Sunday, was taken from the Whitesburg jail by an unmasked throng of men which sawed through its iron bars, placed a chain around the negro's neck and led him away. Two negro women, who were arrested with Woods in connection with the slaying were unmolested.

2383

NEW YORK WORLD

DEC 1 1927

NEGRO IS LYNCHED ON MOUNTAIN TOP

Hanged, Shot and Burned at State Line Between Kentucky and Virginia

MOB OF 300 IN 75 CARS

Victim Said to Have Killed Virginian Who Refused Ride

WHITESBURG, Ky., Nov. 30 (A. P.)—On the mountain top where a few days ago Kentuckians and Virginians joined hands in celebrating the opening of the Kentucky-Virginia Highway, a Negro who killed a Virginian was lynched early to-day by a mob, said to have been composed of citizens of both States.

Then, after hanging the Negro, Leonard Woods, the mob fired many shots into the body, cut it down and, using the stands built for the highway dedication as a pyre, burned the body.

The mob dispersed by the light of the burning stand at Pound Gap, on the State line.

In the confusion six prisoners escaped from the Letcher County Jail presided over by Mrs. Fess Whitaker, jailer. She was appointed recently to succeed her husband, once known as the "jailed jailer", who was killed in an automobile accident. Whitaker, several years ago was placed in his own jail by a County Judge on a charge of contempt.

Harry L. Moore, County Attorney, began an investigation of the lynching of Woods, alleged killer of Hershel Deaton, thirty-five, foreman at a Fleming, Ky., mine. Deaton, who was a son of J. A. Deaton, a Bluefields, W. Va., coal operator, was said to have been slain when he refused to let three Negroes ride in his automobile.

Susan Armstrong, twenty-five, and Anna May Emory, Negroes, jointly charged with Woods with the slaying, were taken out but were allowed to return unharmed to the jail. Judge Bentley said his information was that Woods was hanged in Virginia, about 100 feet across the Kentucky line.

BROOKLYN TIMES

NOV 30 1927

SLAYER LYNCHED ON MOUNTAIN TOP

Negro Slayer of Mine Foreman Shot by Kentucky Mob and His Body Burned.

By United Press.

Louisville, Ky., Nov. 30.—Leonard Wood, negro, was lynched early today by a mob near Fleming, Ky., after his arrest for the murder of a mine foreman.

Wood was shot by the mob, which formed a half circle around him. Gasoline was poured on the negro's body and set afire.

The lynching took place on top of Cumberland Mountain.

A platform recently erected for dedication ceremonies of the opening of the Kentucky-Virginia highway was used as a pyre and the flames from the negro's body were visible over the line into Virginia.

The mob, estimated to consist of 225 armed men, sawed the bars of the jail at Whitesburg, where Woods had been removed for safe keeping.

A chain was placed about the neck of the hapless negro and he was dragged to a motorcar and taken to Jenkins, where the lynching occurred in the early hours.

Woods had been accused of killing Hershel Deaton, foreman of the Elkhorn Coal Corporation, at Fleming.

The first attempt of the mob to get the prisoner had been balked by an eight-foot fence. Six shots were fired at the lock, but it held. Then the wall was scaled, the cell broken into and Woods dragged out. Two women in the prison were released without harm.

The motorcade, numbering more than 150 cars, wound along the road to Jenkins, passed through the little town and with headlights of the automobiles aglow, followed the trail to the mountain top.

Quickly the mob formed in a semicircle about the Negro. Then, as if at a signal, they began firing at the helpless black.

The mob spirit burned itself out with the fire, which consumed the Negro's body as it lay on the platform.

NEW YORK EVENING TELEGRAM & MAIL

NOV 30 1927

LYNCH NEGRO ON MOUNTAIN PYRE

Armed Men Shoot and Burn Killer Suspect.

IN A 150-CAR PARADE

Jail Forced, Victim Borne to Death on Cumberland Peak.

By the United Press.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Nov. 30.—Leonard Wood, negro, was lynched early today by a mob near Jenkins, Ky., after his arrest for the murder of a mine foreman.

Wood was shot by the mob, which formed a half circle around him.

Gasoline was poured on the negro's body and set afire.

Seen in Two States.

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Woods had been accused of killing Hershel Deaton, foreman of the Elkhorn Corporation at Fleming.

Two Women Set Free.

The first attempt of the mob to get the prisoner had been balked by an eight-foot fence. Six shots were fired at the lock, but it held. Then the wall was scaled, the cell broken into and Woods dragged out. Two women in the prison were released without harm.

The motorcade, numbering more than 150 cars, wound along the road to Jenkins, passed through the little town, and with headlights of the automobiles aglow followed the trail to the mountain-top.

Quickly the mob formed in a semicircle about the negro. Then, as if at a signal, they began firing at the helpless black.

The mob spirit burned itself out with the fire which consumed the negro's body as it lay on the platform.

Gasoline was poured over the negro's body and the platform and by the light of the flames the lynchers disappeared.

NEW YORK

SUN and GLOBE

NOV 30 1927

NEGRO LYNCHED ON MOUNTAIN TOP BY FIRING SQUAD

Kentucky Mob Then Burns Platform on Which Body Rested.

HE HAD SHOT MINE FOREMAN

200 Armed Men Take Prisoner From Jail in Charge of Woman Keeper.

JENKINS, Ky., Nov. 30 (A. P.).—Soaring flames mounting from the top of Cumberland Mountain signaled the death of Leonard Woods, negro, who was lynched by a mob of more than two hundred armed men early to-day.

Woods, arrested for the slaying of Marshall Deaton, 35 years old, mine foreman for the Elkton Coal Corporation at Fleming, Ky., was shot to death as he faced a half circle of rifles. Then his body was placed on a platform recently erected for the dedication ceremonies at the opening of the Kentucky-Virginia highway, gasoline was poured over it and a match touched off the structure.

The negro had been arrested near Fleming shortly after Deaton's body was found Sunday. Growing excitement caused officers to take their prisoner to Whitesburg yesterday for safe keeping. Late last night a motorcade of more than 150 cars arrived in Whitesburg. An unmasked throng of men approached the jail, sawed through its iron bars, placed a chain around the negro's neck and led him away.

Mrs. Fess Whittaker, the jailer, said that the mob made no demonstration at the jail. She was powerless to resist the intruders, she said. Two negro women, who were arrested with Woods in connection with the slaying, were unmolested.

Deaton was shot to death when he refused to allow Woods and the two women to ride in his automobile Sunday night, authorities charged.

The Governor of Kentucky, heretofore has pursued a policy of summary dismissal from office of any jailer or State authority who has permitted the removal of his charges by unauthorized persons without physical resistance. Mrs. Wittaker is the first woman officer to have become involved in such an affair in the State.

Lynchings - 1927
Cases of

NEW YORK TIMES
DEC 1 1927

NEGRO IS LYNCHED AS KENTUCKY KILLER

Alleged Slayer Is Taken From Jail Into Virginia and There Shot, Then Burned.

VIRGINIANS ARE BLAMED

Stand From Which New Interstate Highway Was Dedicated Is Used for Funeral Pyre.

JENKINS, Ky., Nov. 30 (AP).—Leonard Woods, 35-year-old negro accused of having slain a Virginian, was lynched on Virginia soil by a mob composed largely of Virginians, Harry L. Moore, County Attorney of Letcher County, Ky., said here tonight after an investigation.

Woods was removed from the county jail at Whitesburg shortly after midnight and taken to the Virginia-Kentucky line, where he was lynched. He had been arrested charged with killing Hershel Deaton, 35, of Wise County, Va. Deaton was employed as a mine foreman at Fleming, Ky.

Following submission of his report to Governor William J. Fields at Frankfort, probably tomorrow, Mr. Moore said it would be "entirely proper" and in keeping with custom for the Governor to address a protest to Governor Harry Flood Byrd of Virginia, asking for an investigation.

Sam H. Privitt, Chief of Police of Jenkins, corroborated Mr. Moore's statement that the mob was made up principally of Virginia citizens, several of whom he "thought" he recognized. Virginia license plates were on a majority of the automobiles which escorted the negro from Whitesburg through Jenkins to the scene of the lynching at Pound Gap, just across the Virginia line, a few miles from here, Mr. Privitt said. Some were Kentucky cars and a few were from West Virginia.

The mob was composed of about four hundred men when it stormed the Whitesburg Jail and broke in through the roof, Mr. Moore estimated. He placed the damage to the building at between $500 and $600. About one-third of the mob wore masks. These, he assumed, were Kentucklans. The crowd had grown to 1,000 at the time of the lynching.

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Virginia.

2384

KY. MOB LYNCHES COLORED CITIZEN

Mr. Robert B. Eleazer,
409 Palmer Bldg.,

Over 1000 White Men and Women Gloat Over Brutal Murder They Committed. No Arrests Are Made by Officers

(Special To The St. Louis Argus)

JENKINS, Ky., Dec. 1. — Leonard Woods, 35 years old, the fourth colored man to die by the hands of a mob in the state of Kentucky within a month, was brutally murdered about mid-night Tuesday by a mob of over 1000 heavily armed white men and women, about one-third of whom wore masks. The victim of the lynching was taken from the Whitesburg jail, which is in charge of a woman sheriff. The mob riddled him with bullets and burned his body.

Gov. Has Little To Say

Gov. Field's only remarks concerning the lynching was that he would do "anything a Governor can do in a case of this nature. Harry L. Moore county attorney, after a brief investigation said he had been unable to identify any of the members of the mob.

Insulted Women

Woods had been confined to jail after he was alleged to have Sunday fatally wounded Hershel Deaton, 35, white Virginia Mine foreman thought to have been a Klansman, Susan Armister, 25, and Anna May Emory, 25, attractive Race women, said they were insulted by Deaton and that Woods was defending them and shot him in self defense. Woods is said to have surrendered after the shooting in anticipation of a fair trial.

Woods was removed from the jail at Jenkins, mining town in Letcher county near the Virginia line.

Jailers Flee

Prevented from entering the jail by a high iron fence that surrounded it, the mob broke it down. Shots were fired from high-power rifles in an attempt to blast away the lock, which the woman sheriff and officers left on the door when they fled at word of the mob's approach. Dynamite was next employed to get into the building and the jail would have been blown up had i t not been for the pleas of white prisoners, who told members of the mob that they might get in thru the roof. Several of the mob members then went to a hardware store, aroused the manager and obtained hacksaws, sledge-hammers and other equipment for carrying out the lynching.

Breaking in through the roof they first got the two women. Then they sought Woods, who was in a cell with another inmate. Members of the mob not being able to identify him got whites in the jail to point him out. He was taken from his cell and a chain put around his neck. He pleaded with the mob and told them the women had nothing to do with the shooting and they were released.

Pleaded For Mercy

Woods was placed in an automobile driven by a woman who led the band, which filled nearly 100 automobiles to the center of the town. Fearing "embarrassment" of the woman sheriff and other officers, who left their charge at the mercy of the mob, a proposal to hang him there was dropped. and he was taken to Pine Mountain. Here on a platform on the newly completed Kentucky-Va. Highway he was placed enshackled in heavy chains. As Woods pleaded for mercy, denying his guilt, one of the mob who seemed to be its leader, ordered all of those with guns to get ready. Then at his command of "fire" several hundred shots rang out and a hail of lead tore the helpless human's body almost to shreds. As the mob shrieked and yelled, gasoline was applied to the body and the wood on stand lighted. A gruesome spectacle was seen in the night as the mad killers danced around the prye of Leonard Woods and shrieked as a pack of wolves over captured prey.

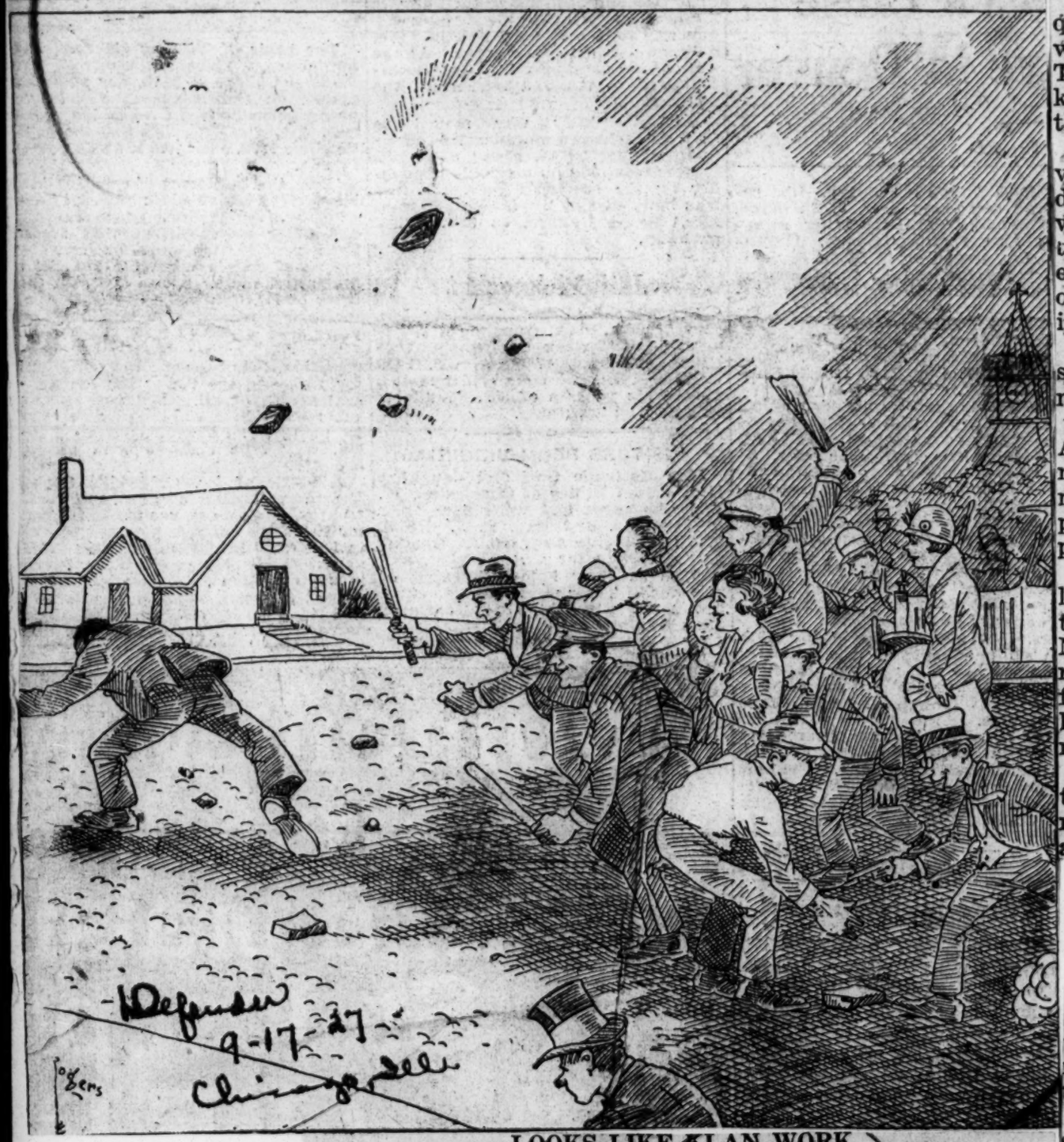
Many of the members of the mob were women and perhaps half of the automobiles were driven by women. Some of them wore masks, but most of them did not.

Lynchings-1927
Discussions.

Negro Press. (Northern).

2391

THE GREAT AMERICAN SPIRIT!



LOOKS LIKE KLAN WORK

Down at Barrettville, Tenn., a few days ago, a mob ran down a Negro, took him to a church yard and then and there riddled his body with bullets.

The victim, Thomas Williams, was suspected of having attacked a white woman in the community the day before. No proof that Williams had attacked the woman was in sight, and his denial of guilt fell on deaf ears so far as the mob was concerned. Of course, mobs never listen to reason, but there is no doubt in our mind but that a different tale would have been told if a little time had been given to search for some white man, who, no doubt, committed the crime, and brought the Negro into the scene to keep from being punished.

Everybody ought to know, by this time, that it has become quite common in this country for white people both men and women to accuse a Negro or Negroes to hide their own crime. They have taken the advantage of race prejudice, which they know exists. They play up "color" rather than crime and make the Negro the victim.

The staging of this lynching in a church yard, looks to us very, very much like the work of the Ku Kluk Klan. Especially does it look the more suspicious because it was a prominent white church of the community. It will be remembered that the Ku Klux Klan moves and operates under the guise of righteousness, supported largely by the protestant church. Many of its strongest supporters hoist their sails as protestant ministers, but in reality, they are wearing a cloak of the devil.

We are confident that the church in whose yard the lynch-shooting occurred harbored all, or at least most of the mob members who did the foul deed.

The churchyard scene signified the approval of the church And more, it supposed to mean the calling in of God as a witness to a righteous deed. Surely, this is mockery of God of the most brazen sort. It is foolishness to even assume that God is pleased to see the "apple of His eye" used for a such damnable purpose.

Just recently, in St. Louis, two white girls who stayed out too late with their fellows in "lovers lane" in Forest Park, told the brazen story to the police that they had been attacked by a Negro and their companions robbed. The two fellows corroberated the girls' story and the police went off on a mad hunt for a Negro, ready to yank up the first Negro within sight or hearing. It will be just as easy to "identify" any Negro so arrested as it was to lie about it in the first instance.

These matters are called to the attention of the public that the world may see and know just how unjust it is to the Negro race for the officers of the law to be those who are color blind and prejudiced.

DOWN IN ARKANSAS AGAIN.

It was at Wilmot, Ark., this time when another Negro was lynched in that state, thus keeping the "Bear State" in the front line of the lyncher's row for 1927.

This time Winston Pounds was accused of entering a white man's home and "frightening" the man's wife. No statement is given what his mission was,, whether to ask for a drink of water or whether on a mission of some other kind. But at any rate, true to the mob spirit, Pounds paid the extreme penalty; that of death at the end of the lyncher's rope.

The story goes a little further. It relates how Sheriff Riley pursued the victim, caught him and after "clicking" steal bands better known as "handcuffs" on Pound's wrists, the sheriff, very stealthily found himself so busy discussing the ways and means of getting rid of the prisoner that he or his deputies failed to see a mob of some fifteen or twenty persons come within less than twenty yards of them and kidnap the prisoner and lynch him before they had missed the victim ,who was such a short distance from them at the time.

Of course, the usual stereotyped lie "unable to identify

any members of the mob" was told by the sheriff and his deputies. The story of the confession after a rope is around the victim's neck reminds us of the proud father who interprets the first—"bah bah" of his six months old baby to mean "papa"; just any kind of muttering from a choking man means confession. The mob knows that the dead tell no story and it is easy to prevaricate to hide one's crime.

In this case it is a safe bet that the supposed consultation which the sheriff and his deputies had was just an alibi which they were framing while passively turning over the prisoner to the mob. If no other members of the mob can be found, we here and now charge Sheriff Riley and his deputies with murder, they being accessories before the fact. Therefore, let the State punish them, and it may be they will tell on some of the other members of the mob who lynched Winston Pounds.

SENTIMENT ON LYNCHING CHANGING IN THE SOUTH

Nat'l Association For Advancement of Colored People Issues A Statement Tending to Show Mobbers Are Becoming Unpopular

Women, Public Men, Newspapers and Government Officials Taking Interest In The Matter

NEW YORK, Aug. 1—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People announces that there is a steadily growing expression of sentiment in the south that tends to make lynching a disreputable sport. More and more the influential agencies of the white South are putting the stamp of their disapproval on lynching and mob violence. This fact can be contrasted with 20 years ago, before the Association began its propaganda and expose' of lynching. At that time editors, preachers, politicians, and even government officials either condoned or justified lynching. The Association now has in its possession evidence that most southern editors of the larger newspapers, as well as government officials, a few politicians and some preachers, are openly opposing lynching. One of the most horrible and sickening descriptions of a lynching is to be found in a southern paper,—the Picayune, Mississippi, Item for July 8, 1927, under the caption of "I Saw A Lynching" and giving the words and personal observations of J. O. Emmerich, Editor of the McComb City Enterprise. After describing the beastly activities of the mob, the editorial concludes:

"After all the question can be simplified. Is mob law good or bad for our people? Is it a means of advancing justice? Does it actually result in any good? Can mob law require anything that legal procedure cannot?

"The truth of the matter is the mob law is injurious to the best interests of all our people, even to the members of the mob themselves and to the members of the families, the sacredness of which may have been intruded upon. And for these reasons it should be abolished.

"I have seen a mob in action. That's why I am so bitterly opposed to mob law."

The white women of the south, whose protection was used as an excuse for lynching until the Association analyzed the facts and showed that attacks upon women supply the excuse for only a very small percentage of the lynchings,—these women are now themselves outspoken against the barbarity of lynch law. The Greenville, Mississippi, Times thus comments on the action of the white women of that state:

"We want to give editorial endorsement to the action taken recently by a group of Mississippi's most prominent women, who met in Jackson following the recent outbreaks of mob violence, and condemned this lawless method; we are glad to say it is becoming less and less.

"The resolutions condemned lynching, declaring that 'as Southern women we hold that no circumstances can ever justify mob action and that in no instance is it an exhibition of chivalric consideration for the honor of womanhood.'"

On July 3rd, according to the New Orleans Picayune, Medals were given to the officers who prevented a mob from lynching a Negro. It is significant that the exercises were participated in by a member of the state legislature, who presented the medals, and by a preacher and other leaders and government officers. The Picayune says:

"Sheriff U. T. Downs and Jailer W. G. Penny, of Rapides parish, were presented with medals here today by the Southern Commission of Interracial Co-operation for their efforts in preventing the lynching of a Negro prisoner a year ago.

"The award was made at Emmanuel Baptist Church after the pastor, Rev. Carle Devane, had delivered a sermon on Christianity and the law."

Other recent southern expressions against lynching are the following:

The Concord North Carolina Tribune commenting on the frequent excuse that it would be too expensive to prosecute the mob quotes Judge Sinclair as saying:

"The question of evxpense does not bother me," then the Tribune goes on to say:

"Judge Sinclair is eternally right. The matter of costs should not worry Wake County. They should be welcomed by every citizen and taxpayer whatever they may amount to. They are, in fact, about the most necessary expense the county has faced in years. The real question in this case of flogging is what the county will pay in future trouble, in encouraged lawlessness, in the exercise of mob spirit, if for reasons of lethargy or mistaken economy it fails to expend every bit of energy and intelligence at its command in spotting with the search light a gang of the most dangerous criminals who ever brought the county itself into disrepute."

The Rome Georgia News-Tribune commenting on the disgraceful flogging in that state, calls for the defense "of the fair name of Georgia"; and says:

"The Georgia legislature, in session now, could render the state no greater service than by enacting laws that designated flogging or other outrages by hooded and masked men a felony with a mandatory longtime sentence at hard labor.

"It is to the everlasting credit of the state that for a year and a half its head has been held high because of the action of its courts in dealing with lynchings. The example set by Coffee County in dealing with the lyncher should be followed by every other county—and the state at large—in dealing with floggers and other such criminals."

A writer in the Montgomery, Ala., Advertiser while stating that during the last forty years he had heard no less than 1000 men excuse lynching, expresses himself in a long article condemning lynching as follows:

"Brought down to brass tackks, the only preventive for mob lynchings is an educated, stern public sentiment against them—a sentiment that can impress upon the consciousness of the most callous man in the community that every mobber should be hunted down like a wildcat and punished as surely as any other bloodsmeared criminal."

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"A masked gang fell upon a Negro farmer in Jefferson county, beat him unmercifully and frightened him into selling his farm for $80. The terrorized man after hastily selling his possessions fled the community.

"This is another unspeakable outrage, even more cowardly than the lashing of Jeff Calloway and "Mule" Murchison of Jonesboro, both of whom were whipped in Imperial Jefferson. It is more cowardly for a masked gang to beat and intimidate a Negro than a white man for the obvious reason that his social and political position renders him more defenseless. It is perfectly outrageous that a Negro or any other person should be bullied and frightened into sacrificing the fruits of a lifetime of toil in order to save his life or protect his body from further abuse. No doubt the beasts who attacked this Negro will profit by his financial loss. At least there is ground for this unpleasant suspicion.

"How long, O Lord, How longe"

Similar condemnations of lynching will be found in the Hattiesburg, Miss., American; in the Belzoni, Mississippi, Banner; in the Bowling Green, Kentucky, Journal; Daytona Beach, Fla., Journal; the Memphis, Tenn., Commercial-Appeal and other papers. The Journal of Bowling Green, Kentucky, prints a release from the International News Service telling that the Governors of North Carolina and South Carolina have at last got together on something else besides pre-Volstead discussions and have decided that there must be a longer time still between lynchings, in fact that lynching must be done away with altogether in the Carolinas.

The Association is glad to report this progress of sentiment in the south against lynching. In the last analysis it is public sentiment that will control race relations and that will back up enforcement of the law.

Lynchings - 1927
Discussions.

Negro Press, (Northern)

2430

RACE EQUALITY SEEKERS CAUSE OF KY. LYNCHING

Lone Black Man Sought To Halt Intimacy of 2 Whites With Colored Girls

WHITE MAN ASKS MOB TO SAVE HIS WOMAN

Sheriff Deserted Machine Gun To Mingle With Unmasked Murderers

The AFRO carried last week a special story of the lynching of Leonard Wood, at Whitesburg, Ky., in which half the mob was women.

It publishes herewith without charge and without comment a letter from the scene of the crime.

The first story said Wood was lynched because he wanted the white man to take him and two young women companions in his auto. This did not sound like Dixie, so we awaited the true story.

Here it is.

Wood was lynched because he tried to keep two white men from going out on a wild joy ride with two colored women who were his friends.

It is necessary of course to hold confidential the name of our correspondent.

—*The Editors.*

WHITESBURG, KY., (By Mail to the Afro)—"The cause of the lynching of Leonard Wood."

Two colored women, Susan Amister and Fannie Mae Emory, who were intimate with Hershel Deaton and another white man, started on an automobile ride Sunday night, Nov. 27 at eleven o'clock in Jenkins, Ky.

Wood Objected

Leonard Wood, a Negro, a friend of the colored women objected to the women going out on this wild joy ride with the white men, Hershel Deaton and his friend.

Wood jumped on the running board of the car of Deaton and attempted to make the women get out of the car. Deaton then jumped out of the car and beat and kicked Wood.

When Deaton beat and kicked Wood the colored man, Wood, then pulled out a revolver and shot and killed Deaton.

Women Run

The women and Wood ran. A posse was soon formed and caught the women. The women then told on Wood and he was caught Monday morning at day-break.

Wood was placed in the Whitesburg, Ky., jail, the county seat of Letcher County. Tuesday, a mob was advertised to be formed and did organize and proceeded to the jail.

Pleads For His Woman

After one hour's work of sawing bars etc., they took Wood and the two women out of jail. The white man who was with Deaton when he was killed pleaded not to harm his woman. Then the women were placed back in jail and the mob went on with Wood.

Sheriff Deserts Machine Guns

The High Sheriff, M. T. Reynolds, two deputies and all other Peace and County officers were there and watched the mob at work in the breaking into the jail. Sheriff Reynolds had been informed that the mob was forming and coming. He never made any effort to prevent the mob from acting. He had two machine guns in his office and plenty of time to act. However, there was not one shot fired in the air or into the mob.

No Masks Worn

The mob was unmasked, yet Sheriff Reynolds mingled with them for one hour and claims he recognized no one. They came in one hundred and fifty (150) cars, yet no one knew a license number.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

OUR GROUP has been accustomed to consideration of the president's message to Congress in terms that would narrow it down in interest to the clause relating to the welfare of American Negroes, or references to those of our group of color under the protectorate of our country. The results of the participation of great numbers of Afro-Americans in the late world war and the subsequent largely increased numbers of foreign tourists throughout the world has given him a larger vision, been broadening in all of its aspects and has caused him to realize, as never before, that he is in reality an American citizen in the fullest sense of the word and that what affects his county, or influences its destinies affects him directly or indirectly as it does any other group of Americans, be they hyphenates or native born. It is commendable to observe, then, that our group is displaying a keen, analytical and eager interest in the president's message in its entirety, rather than in detached clauses. For this anual message not only outlines the president's views on great current issues of our country and its relations with the rest of the civilized world, but it also maps out a program for Congress to accept or reject, as it seems fit and as is consistent with and obedient to the wills of the people as indicated or expressed by their representatives in that body at the people's direction and not at the discretion of the representatives.

The president's message is characterized by that ultra-conservatism and tendency toward economy which has emphasized these two traits of character as being more than pronounced in him. His theories of "constructive economy," flood control, taxation, prohibition, farm relief and good roads, we commend. His policy and recommendation for an enlarged army and navy should be opposed by our group, unless provision is made for the unrestricted enlistment of American citizens of color in all departments of the army navy, and aviation corps and their free admittance to the naval, military and aviation officers' training schools. We are for world peace, but as long as the world has not adopted universal peace and disarmament, and we are subject to military service, our senators and representatives should be made to fight for our right to the unabridged opportunity to fit ourselves for any branch of the service for which we are able to qualify.

We are against the consolidation of the various veterans bureaus in that the centralization of powers in the hands of a few may prove inimical to the respective merited interests of the many involved, as the older veterans are numerically less and correspondingly less powerful in influence than the younger veterans.

We are opposed to the establishment of a department of Federal Education and the addition of a cabinet member to have supervision of the same. Nationally the influence of the Afro-American group is of such little force that they may not hope to improve our southern schools, where reforms are most needed, by federal control or influence of education. Our past experiences with federal activities in the South makes us skeptical of the proposed new venture.

Railroad consolidation should be opposed, unless some agreement is reached whereby Afro-Americans will be given the opportunities to serve as employees wherever and in whatever capacities they are qualified.

The president's clause, "The Negro," is without vigor, vim, or force that would excite statesmen to militant and courageous campaigns to end the oppressions, murders, lynchings, discriminations and other ills from which he suffers, and which may be ended at any time by a strict application of the functions of the national laws now unenforced, or by the enactment of proposed laws to cover those infractions for which there are now no existing laws. It is to be urged upon our representatives to bestir themselves to carry out its intent and purposes to the end that a strong anti-lynching bill be passed by congress. All of the energies of all real Americans should be enlisted.

In the main the recommendations of the president are sound and progressive. Let us support them with the reservations enumerated and be thankful for the crumb of consolation on the lynching evil.

A VOTE FOR MOB LAW.

The voters of Isle of Wight County in Virginia, at the election for county officers last week, virtually declared themselves in favor of mob law and lynching. They defeated for re-election the sheriff and commonwealth attorney who had insisted on enforcing the law and keeping their oaths of office. These officials were renominated by large majorities in a Democratic primary last August. Opposition to their re-election did not arise until about four weeks before the election, the cause for which was their action in the case of a demented Negro, who was accused of attacking and killing a white girl.

A mob of whites sought to seize the accused man, who it appeared had been declared insane, but was not considered dangerous and was left at large because the state had no room for him in an insane asylum. To prevent a lynching the sheriff too, his prisoner away to Petersburg, where he was held for trial. The commonwealth attorney was also opposed because he stood with the sheriff for the orderly processes of the law. A mass meeting of white citizens protested against the manner in which these officials had acted and named candidates to oppose them, who were elected by small majorities.

The action of these Virginians who registered their preference for mob murder over legal punishment for crime illustrated the difficulty of eradicating lynch law in the South. That a majority of any civilized community could go to the polls and deliberately oppose two officials who had saved that community from committing murder is a reflection upon the teachings of both church and state. What possible way is there to awaken such a people to the enormity of their offence against the laws of God and the laws of man? The only redeeming feature of the situation was the fact that there appeared to be a considerable proportion of the voters who supported the officials standing for law and order. The sheriff who frustrated the mob was defeated by over a hundred votes, while the commonwealth attorney lost by only twenty seven votes. Their successful opponents must realize that their tenure of office depends on recognizing the mob as their master.

This group of Virginia voters must be jealous of the infamy achieved by a neighboring South Carolina community, which lynched a woman and two men a year ago.

KENTUCKY MOB OF LYNCHERS HALF WOMEN

Unmasked Woman Also Drove Car That Took Prisoner To Funeral Pyre

SHERIFFS NOTIFIED ARRIVE TOO LATE

Law Officers Look On As Whites Shoot Then Burn Their Victim

WHITESBURG, KY.—Up until late hour Monday night, Kentucky and Virginia authorities were unable to learn the names of any of the 1,000 persons who took a part in the lynching of Leonard Woods, late Tuesday night near this city, following the shooting to death of Hershel Deaton, white, foreman at a coal mine at Fleming, Ky.

A report of Harry G. Moore, white, Letche county attorney to Governor Fields of Kentucky, alleges that the lynching took place late Tuesday night at Pine Mountain several miles from here, but about six feet over the Virginia line in Wise County.

The mob motored into Whitesburg about 11 o'clock and swooped down on the jail, where Woods, two women, Susan Armister, 25, and Ann May Emory, 25, also charged with murder of Deaton, and about 30 other prisoners were quartered. The sheriff Morgan T. Reynolds, had been notified of the coming delegation but reached the jail too late.

Dynamite

The leaders of the band demanded the keys from the keeper, Mrs. Fess Whittaker, who refused to hand them over. The gang began at once to force their way in. Several pleas of the prisoners in the building to the mob caused them to halt their efforts. Some of the prisoners told the mob to climb to the roof of the building and gain entrance through a trap door.

In the meantime several members of the band went to a nearby hardware store, aroused the manager and got several hacksaws and other equipment to open the cell where Woods was a prisoner.

Several in the mob entered the prison through the trap door on the roof and removed the [illegible] women. Then they went to Woods' cell. There was another man in there with him, and in order to be sure they got the right person, witnesses were summoned who knew Woods. He was taken from the cell, and a chain placed around his neck.

Many Women In Mob

Woods outside the cell made a statement clearing the two women saying that the pistol with whom Deaton was shot was his, and he had carried it all day. The women were returned to jail. He was placed in an automobile driven by a woman and the band of nearly 150 cars moved to Jenkins, a few miles away. There a consultation was held and it was decided to move Woods to Pine Mountain.

Platform Used

At this place on a platform which had been constructed for the celebration of the Pound Gap Road which had opened November 18th, Woods was placed to be hanged. He was tied up by one foot and one hand. After that his body was riddled with bullets. One of the bullets cut the rope and he fell to the platform where his body was saturated with gasoline and set afire. The man made a vain plea for his life.

Woods' body was removed from the platform late Wednesday afternoon and buried in Virginia by the deputy sheriff of Wise county.

Half Masked

According to sheriff Reynolds, the mob surrounded Whitesburg an hour before they took the prisoner. Half of them were women, some were masked and some were not. It was composed of persons from the extreme eastern end of Letcher County, and the western end of Virginia. Many of the cars bore Virginia license. Unable to stop the lynching, the sheriff and the marshal took abode on the second floor of the court house and watched the crowd at work.

Woods, it is said, in company with two women accosted Deaton, who was driving a Chrysler coupe, on the road near Fleming, Ky., and asked for a ride up to mine 206. Deaton refused and the shooting followed.

Two Governors

The governors of both states have ordered that the persons implicated in the lynching be found and dealt with according to the state laws. Mr. H. F. Byrd, governor of Virginia, has given warning that lynching will not be tolerated in that state. He said it was full time for Virginia to make example of those committing the crime of lynching, and to punish the guilty as other murderers are punished.

PROSECUTION OF LYNCHERS IS ADVOCATED

"If in every state, particularly every southern state, a fund of about $5000 were placed on deposit for combatting mob violence, lynching as a sadistic southern sport would very rapidly decline," according to Bruce Crawford, (white) editor of Crawford's Weekly of Norton, Va.

Mr. Crawford has made a special study of the lynching situation in Virginia and has dedicated his paper to fight that evil.

In discussing the lynching evil in his state he says: "Within the past month I have detected that a surprisingly great number of supposedly enlightened people, while unwilling to participate in a lynching, will openly advocate mob law or mildly defend it."

The lynching of Leonard Woods on November 30 on the Virginia-Kentucky state line, was severely scored by Mr. Crawford in his paper. In speaking of the incident he says:

Papers Deplore Lynchings

"In the first issue of Crawford's Weekly to appear after the Leonard Woods lynching, I published the gruesome details and called on the other Virginia newspapers to start a subscription fund among their readers for the prosecution and conviction of members of the lynching party. Virginia editors had always been prompt to 'deplore' lynchings, such deplorings having what seemed to be a perfunctory and hypocritical tone. Deplore as they did, nothing came of it.

"It was partly because of this ineffectual deploring that Crawford's Weekly announced the starting of a fund at $50. That seemed one way of co-operating effectively with those who so easily deplored. And it would be a fund with which to finance an impartial investigation, a fund to place at the disposal of a reputable agency for going to the bottom of the affair.'

Mr. Crawford explains the importance of this fund being non-political as follows:

Non-political Movement

"It must be a fund in non-political hands. Local authorities will not, for political reasons, push a lynching case. A Governor can characterize a lynching as a "dastardly crime," as Virginia's otherwise progressive Governor labeled the Woods lynching, but unless he goes over the heads of local authorities he accomplishes little or nothing. Few Governors dare rile the constituency of their far-flung lieutenants. Such being the usual case, it is hardly probable that each State, believe in State rights as it may, will cope successfully with its own mobbers.

"It would seem, therefore, that a fund placed at the disposal of fearless investigators would greatly aid those authorities really inclined to prosecute and convict. That is why Crawford's Weekly started its fund."

NICE VIRGINIA PEOPLE FAVOR LYNCHINGS

White Editor Who Started Fund To Uncover Mob Members Is Surprised

THOUGHT FOLKS STOOD FOR LAW AND ORDER

One Hundred Take Steps, However, At Once To Cancel Subscriptions

NORTON, VA.--Reactions to his protest against the brutal lynching of Leonard Wood has revealed that many of Virginia's nice people favor lynching.

"A surprisingly great number of supposedly enlightened people advocate mob law and mildly defend it," declares Bruce Crawford, white, editor of CRAWFORD'S WEEKLY.

Having editorially denounced lynching in Virginia and adjoining states, he says in a signed article, "I had come complacently to feel that few if any of my subscribers would countenance a lynching. But when I published the gruesome details of the Leonard Wood lynching and started a subscription fund for the prosecution and conviction of members of the lynching party, I at once ran up against a surprise."

Hostile Reaction

There was at once a hostile reaction, the first of which was a "rise" out of certain of Crawford's subscribers in the community where the white man lived whom Wood killed. Some of them stopped their subscription; others wrote or telephoned discontinuance notices to "stop the rotten paper."

A petition was also circulated calling upon subscribers to ban Crawford's Weekly and upward of a hundred names were said to have been on the list.

When some of the friends of Crawford suggested a milder tone, he came out with another editorial in which he branded the lynchers as murderers, suggesting that if every state, particularly the Southern states, raised a fund of $5,000 with which to combat mob violence and bring the mob members to justice, lynching as a sadistic Southern sport would very rapidly decline.

Not Many Ashamed

"There may not be many around here ashamed of that Pound Gap affair," the editorial says, "but this paper confesses it.

"To justify that lynching is to set a dangerous precedent. It is to forego trial by jury, to confess we are not civilized enough to make and enforce just laws and revert to a primitive state that gives the lie to our claims to Christian enlightenment and human progress. Not only is this paper heartily ashamed of that lynching, but it is saddened to know that many people of seeming enlightenment seek openly and frankly to justify the revolting crime.

"Our fund stands."

Lynchings-1927
Discussions.

Negro Press, (Northern).

2431

Southern Sentiment Against Mob Violence Is Increasing Steadily

NEW YORK — More and more the influential agencies of the white South are putting the stamp of their disapproval on lynching and mob violence, according to the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. This fact can be contrasted with 20 years ago, before the Association began its propaganda and expose of lynching. At that time editors, preachers, politicians and even government officials either condoned or justified lynching. The Association now has in its possession evidence that most southern editors of the larger newspapers, as well as government officials, a few politicians and some preachers, are openly opposing lynching. One of the most horrible and sickening descriptions of a lynching is to be found in a southern paper — the Picayune, Mississippi, Item for July 8, 1927, under the caption of "I Saw A Lynching", and being the words and personal observations of J. O. Emmerich, Editor of the McComb City Enterprise. After describing the beastly activities of the mob, the editorial concludes:

"After all the question can be simplified. Is mob law good or bad for our people? Is it a means of advancing justice? Does it actually result in any good? Can mob law require anything that legal procedure cannot?

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"I have seen a mob in action. That's why I am so bitterly opposed to mob law."

The white women of the South, whose protection was used as an excuse for lynching until the Association analyzed the facts and showed that attacks upon women supply the excuse for only a very small percentage of the lynchings — these women are now themselves outspoken against the barbarity of lynch law. The Greenville, Mississippi, Times thus commented the action of the white women of that state:

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"The resolutions condemn lynching, declaring that 'as Southern women we hold that no circumstances can ever justify mob action and that in no instance is it an exhibition of chivalric consideration for the honor of womanhood.'"

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The Association is glad to report this progress of sentiment in the South against lynching. In the last analysis is public that will control race relations and that will back up enforcement of the law.

DIXIE WOMEN OUT TO BREAK UP LYNCHINGS

Sign Resolutions at Y. W. C. A. Meet

Jackson, Miss., July 1.—A group of representative Mississippi women met in the rooms of the Jackson Young Women's Christian Association last Thursday afternoon and unanimously adopted the following resolution with reference to mob outbreaks in Mississippi.

"We place ourselves on record as unalterably opposed to mob murder. The barbaric practice of lynching arouses unchristian passions, violates the soverignty of our state, destroys the majesty of the law, brings Mississippi into disrepute in the eyes of the world and brutalizes all those who come within its influence.

"As southern women we hold that no circumstances can ever justify mob action and that in no instance is it an exhibition of chivalric consideration for the honor of womanhood.

"We commend our governor for calling out troops to suppress mob activities, urge all sheriffs to meet attempts on their jails with force, and call upon grand juries and officers of the law to prosecute vigorously the lynchers in Mississippi who have unlawfully slaughtered six men within the past two months."

(Signed)

"Mrs. Theodore D. Bratton, chairman; Miss Susie V. Powell, Mrs. Myrtle G. Hicks, Mrs. C. H. Alexander of Jackson, Mrs. D. G. McLaurin, Canton; Mrs. W. W. Epperson, Jackson; Mrs. Edgar Goodwill, Osyka; Mrs. Ivy G. Hill, Cleveland; Miss Mamie J. Chandler, Jackson; Mrs. John Bell Hood, Jonestown; Mrs. J. T. Calhoun, Mrs. David M. Key, Mrs. C. A. McCurdy, Miss Paralee McLester, Jackson."

The list of signers includes some of the most prominent white women in Mississippi. Mrs. Theodore D. Bratton, wife of the beloved bishop of the Diocese of Mississippi has been prominently identified with the work of her church. Miss Susie V. Powell is president of the State Federation of Women's clubs. Mrs. C. H. Alexander, the widow of the lamented Charlton H. Alexander, has been an active worker in women's organizations for several decades. Mrs. D. G. McLaurin of Canton is president of the Mississippi Synodical while Mrs. W. W. Epperson is president of the Jackson Federation of Missionary societies. Mrs. Myrtle Hicks is vice president of the Mississippi Synodical while Mrs. Edgar Goodwill, of Osyka, is social service superintendent of the Mississippi conference of the Methodist church. Miss Mamie J. Chandler is deaconess at Galloway Memorial church, Jackson. Mrs. David M. Key, wife of the president of Millsaps college and the newly elected chairman of the Mississippi Women's committee on Race relationships. Miss Paralee McLester is general secretary of the Jackson Y. W. C. A.

None of these women signed the resolution officially, but each acted individually. Thousands of women throughout Mississippi look to them for constructive leadership and will doubtless applaud their action.

Lynchers Losing Caste in South

New York, Aug. 1.—The N. A. A. C. P. announces from its offices that there is a steadily growing expression of sentiment in the South that tends to make lynching a disreputable sport. More and more the influential agencies of the white South are putting the stamp of their disapproval on lynching an mob violence. This fact can be contrasted with 20 years ago, before the Association began its propaganda and expose of lynching. At that time editors, preachers, politicians, and even government officials either condoned or justified lynching. The Association now has in its possession evidence that most southern editors of the larger newspapers, as well as government officials, a few politicians and some preachers, are openly opposing lynching. One of the most horrible and sickening descriptions of a lynching is to be found in a Southern paper—the Picayune, Missisippi, item for July 8, 1927, under the caption of "I Saw a Lynching," and being the words and personal observations of J. O. Emmerich, editor of the McComb City Enterprise. After describing the beastly activities of the mob, the editorial concludes:

"After all the question can be simplified. Is mob law good or bad for our people? Is it a means of advancing justice? Does it actually result in any good? Can mob law require anything that legal procedure cannot?

"The truth of the matter is the mob law is injurious to the best interests of all our people, even to the members of the mob themselves and to the members of the families, the sacredness of which may have been intruded upon. And for these reasons it should be abolished.

"I have seen a mob in action. That's why I am so bitterly opposed to mob law."

The white women of the South whose protection was used as an excuse for lynching until the Association analyzed the facts and showed that attacks upon women supply the excuse for only a very small percentage of the lynchings—these women are now themselves outspoken against the barbarity of lynch law.

LYNCHING AND PUBLIC PREJUDICES

The statistics of lynching in the United States (it is redundant to add the phrase, "in the United States," for the practice exists nowhere else in the civilized world), shows an increase of this crime for the first six months of this year as compared with the like period of 1926.

Another feature is that the alleged cause of "assault" on women is more generally assigned in justification of this form of murder than for several years past. This is a suspicious circumstance, and should lead to thorough investigation on the part of some one or all of the organizations existing for the purpose of conserving the rights of the Negro as a human being. Of course, it takes money and experienced investigators to do this, but a group of twelve million people should be able to provide the means to carry out some such project as this.

The term "assault" has a very broad and comprehensive meaning and may include anything from gently laying one's hands upon the person of another to the commission of rape. Recently, in Virginia, a Negro boy under sixteen years of age was charged with assault with intent to commit rape upon a white girl, the evidence showing that the boy had merely concealed himself, and, as the girl passed, thrown a coat over her head. There was no beating, no handling. The whole weight of the evidence tended to show that it was a mere youthful prank, unaccompanied by any felonious intent. And yet the verdict of the jury and the judgment of the court were that the boy was guilty of assault with intent to commit rape, and he was sent to the penitentiary for ten years.

The matter of so-called race consciousness enters into this matter. Upon so-called race consciousness is based all those prejudices which are the source of distinctions and discriminations and proscriptions to which Negroes are subjected. Prejudice and superstition are states of mind. Many of them cannot be reached by legislation. They can be changed and modified by persuasion, and by all those mental and spiritual methods of procedure which go by the general name of education.

The time has come when this matter of lynching, which is a manifestation of racial prejudice and hatred, in most of its aspects, should be discussed in its social, biological and psychological bearings. Our ministers and teachers and publicists should be properly equipped for this task. It is just here that we do not show to decided advantage.

In a recent article, Mr. H. L. Mencken, in referring to the Negro publicists said: "Even on the subject of their race's wrongs, they do not write as well, taking one with another, as the white scriveners who tackle the same subject." While that sentence strikes the ear a little unpleasantly, there is more truth in it than there ought to be. Much that is written and spoken by many of our intellectual leaders is marred and rendered ineffective by evidences of haste and a lack of proper investigation and reflection. Some of these leaders seem to be consumed by the idea of volume and timeliness of output, rather than by considerations of a more serious and lasting character.

Conspicuous Editorials

DEALING WITH MOBS

(From The Arkansas Gazette)

The people of Ouachita County have a right to be proud of their sheriff, Arthur Ellis, whose prompt and determined action at Camden ended the possibilities of a race riot. As a result of an alleged attack on a young white woman by a Negro, volunteer posses, composed of armed men in a feverish state of excitement and acting independently of the constituted peace authorities, were ranging the neighborhood. The members of one of them fired on and wounded a Negro whom they encountered on the highway. Sheriff Ellis immediately arrested 14 alleged members of the posse, charging them with rioting, disturbing the peace and carrying concealed weapons. After this action of the sheriff had broken up one mob he found himself confronted with a second mob, composed largely of young men. "The sheriff gave them ten minutes in which to disperse. In ten minutes there was no mob."

Those words quoted from the dispatch to The Gazette reporting the occurrence, tell the whole story with eloquent terseness. The mob knew their man, and had no eagerness to attempt defiance of the authority which was reposed in him by the law, and which he did not hesitate to enforce to the full.

THE SCARS THE MOB LEAVES

(The Arkansas Gazette)

In the Vienna riot the great marble and granite Palace of Justice was in so large part destroyed by the flames to which it fell prey that a new building must be provided to take its place. In addition there is to be charged to last week's disorders the immeasurable loss of official records, political, historical and judicial.

The grievous evidence of the work of the Vienna's mob is plain for all eyes to see. In the case of many outbreaks in our own country a victim is lynched, but no material wreck or ruin marks the path of the mob and public and private affairs move on in their accustomed courses without interruption or delay. But even though the hurt and injury may not be seen with the eyes, when law and order and public peace are betrayed the fabric of our Anglo Saxon civilization is rent and blackened, even as that proud temple of justice in Vienna was ruined in the outbreak of the angry elements of the Austrian capital's population.

Dixie Press On Lynching

"I have seen a mob in action. That's why I am so bitterly opposed to mob law."

J. O. Emmerich—New Orleans Picayme

"The Georgia legislature, in session now, could render the state no greater service than by enacting a law that designated flogging or other outrages by hooded and masked men a felony with a mandatory long time sentence at hard labor.

Rome, Ga. News Tribune

"Brought down to brass tacks, the only preventive for mob lynchings is an educated, stern public sentiment against them—a sentiment that can impress upon the consciousness of the most callous man in the community that every mobber should be hunted down like a wildcat and punished as surely as any other bloodsmeared criminal."

Montgomery, Ala. Advertiser

Blue Ridge, N. C., June.—Stirred by the many recent outbreaks of mob violence in the South, the Y. M. C. A. Student Conference for the Southeast, which has just concluded its annual meeting here, adopted and gave to the press the following resolutions relative to lynching and mob violence:

"Whereas, the encouraging decline in lynching which has marked recent years suffered a serious relapse in 1926, and

"Whereas, there have occured in recent months many instances of this fearful crime, particularly in the states of Mississippi and Arkansas, and

"Whereas, we, the Southern Regional Council of Student Y. M. C. A's assembled at Blue Ridge, N. C., believe we voice the sentiment of the great mass of Southern people in condemning all such atrocious crimes, and

"Whereas, we have heard of these tragic occurrences with keen regret, and believe that they are unjustifiable from any standpoint;

"Therefore be it,

Resolved, That we earnestly hope that the public officials and the Christian citizenship of our country will use every means of upholding the law and cultivating public sentiment against such atrocities."

Similar resolutions were adopted by the Y. W. C. A. Student Conference meeting at the same place during the preceding week. The students in attendance at these two conferences represent practically all the colleges of the Southeastern region.

Jackson, Miss., June 25.—Meeting here last week in annual session, the Mississippi Woman's Committee on Race Relations pledged themselves to the most progressive program of interracial justice ever adopted by any group in this State. Beginning with a terrific broadside against lynching and mob violence, they promised to seek better school advantages for the colored people of the State, offered their cooperation to the Nego club women in their efforts for a home for delinquent boys, and then gave proof of their sincerity by inviting the Negro women of the State to membership on their committee. Among the specific improvements in school conditions to which they pledged themselves were better facilities for teacher training, better school buildings, and a more equitable distribution of school funds.

Mrs. David M. Key, wife of the president of Millsaps College, was elected president of the state committee, which includes a score of the most prominent women in Mississippi, all of them leaders in one or more of the great religious or civic groups. The meeting was convened by Mrs. Maud P. Henderson, of the Commission on Interracial Cooperation, who reports much more active interest in the movement than was apparent in earlier meetings.

Lynchings - 1927
Discussions

Negro Press, (Northern) 2432

Lynching Increase At

Rate of Mob Murders Call For Nation-Wide Protest

Rate Of Two Every Week

BOSTON, Mass., June 2.—Last week's continued rate of "two lynchings a week" has aroused fresh interest in the proposal urged by the National Equal Rights League that June 17th, anniversary of Bunker Hill be everywhere publicly celebrated as "Salem Day," in honor of Peter Salem and Salem Poor, Colored hero soldiers on this first regular battle for American Independence, each meeting to send resolutions to President Coolidge with signatures of the promoters, for a federal anti-lynching bill. It is realized that a fresh bombardment of the White House must be made and resolutions adopted on anniversary of a day when Colored soldiers helped found the Repubic will carry a special weight as well as evidence of a concerted action.

To carry out this campaign the League suggests Equal Rights Citizens Committees or Leagues or such sub-committees of existing race bodies or churches. Heads of all national organizations or orders are asked to send a recommendation to every unit to pass a resolution at regular meetings nearest June 17th, and churches on June 19th. It is also asked that a copy of each resolution with the signatures be sent to the League, so that all these can be presented at the White House together for July 4th, each resolution also to ask abolition of federal segregation, as a United Race appeal against two lynchings per week.

Inconsistencies

FLORIDA knows how to prevent the lynching of white men, even if it costs the lives of other white men, but on the slightest provocation it turns colored men over to the mob.

LAST WEEK, to prevent the lynching of a white man who had confessed to the murder of another white man, his wife and three children, a detachment of militia numbering 500 men was called out, and 1,000 special deputies were appointed and given "shoot to kill" orders. Four people were killed and a score or more injured, but the murderer was not lynched.

NEVERTHELESS, it is not such a bad sign to see a Southern state prevent a lynching, even of a white man, and at the expense of other white men. It proves one thing: that a determined state can prevent the lynching of its citizens, whether they be white or black.

National Council of Congregational Churches Denounces Mob Violence

George E. Haynes, Ph. D., of New York City, was elected assistant moderator of the National Council of the Congregational Churches, at its recent biennial meeting held in Omaha, Neb., May 25th to June 1, 1927. Dr. Haynes for five years has been secretary of the Commission on the Church and race Relations of the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America. Formerly he was professor of sociology at Fisk University, Nashville. He holds degrees from Fisk, Yale and Columbia.

Dr. Haynes was also elected a director for the unified Congregational Home Mission Boards, and he is serving a six year term on the Commission on Interracial Relations of the National Congregational Council.

Colored speakers on the program of the meeting in Omaha, included Dr. Haynes, who conducted a forum, "Racial Readjustments"; President Mordecai Johnson, Ph. D., of Howard university, Washington, D. C., who spoke on "The Future of the Negro"; and Rev. Harold M. Kingsley of Detroit, director of Negro work in the north for the Congregational Church Extension Boards, who spoke on "The Negro in the North."

Denounce Mob Violence

Resolutions which were adopted regarding race relations, included a strong denouncement of mob violence and lynching, and an approval of the principle of holding meetings only at places where all delegates could receive the same accommodations and treatment. In approving this principle the National Congregational Council took a stand similar to that which has been taken by the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America, Y. M. C. A., Y. W. C. A., the Methodist Episcopal General Conference and other bodies

Among the Negroes attending the National Congregational Council were six former assistant moderators: Rev W. L. Cash, New Orleans, La.; Rev. A. C. Garner, Harlem, New York City; Rev. Henry Hugh Proctor, D. D., Brooklyn, New York City; Rev. Alfred Lawless, D. D., Atlanta, Ga.; Rev. C. W. Burton, Evanston, Ill., and Rev. Harold M. Kingsley of Detroit. Others attending included George N. White, Chicago, alumni secretary of the American Missionary Association ;Rev. H. S. Barnwell, Atlanta, Ga., superintendent for churches in Alabama, South Carolina and Tennessee; Rev. H. H. Dunn, New Orleans, superintendent for churches in Louisiana, Mississippi and Texas Rev. E. H. Phillips, New Orleans, field secretary for Sunday School extension.

Those elected to Commissions included: Mrs. Charlotte Hawkins Brown, principal of Palmer Memorial Institute, Sedalia, N. C.; Mrs. Harriett Lawless, Atlanta, Ga. and Rev. P. R. DeBerry, Raleigh N. C., to the Commission on Interracial Relations; Rev. C. S. Ledbetter, Charleston, S C., to the Commission on Evangelism. Rev. W. N. DeBerry, D. D., Springfield, Mass., was elected a member of the Federal Council of Churches.

Anti-Lynching Pledge Figures In Miss. Election

Candidates For Forrest County Sheriff Asked To Declare Themselves In "Red Hot" Campaign

For the first time in Mississippi politics the issue of lynchings or no lynchings may play an important part, if developments in the Forrest County elections this fall are to be taken seriously.

Politics down in Mississippi are always an engrossing topic of discussion, but this time the candidates are said to have a real live problem on their hands. It has all come about because of the action of a number of prominent white men of the community, who have organized themselves into what they call a group representing the public conscience and have hurled a bomb shell in the form of a questionaire, which they are demanding to be answered by all candidates.

This questionaire is as follows: "If elected sheriff of Forrest County, will you defend all prisoners in your custody and preserve your jail if attacked by a mob at the risk of your life, shooting to kill, if necessary, in order to perform fully your statutory oath?"

Even more stringent is the demand that the candidate promise when he becomes sheriff to immediately issue a written warning declaring that any attack upon the majesty of the law by mob will be met by all force necessary".

A letter accompanying the questionaire says that the questioners "believe themselves entitled to a public answer," and concludes with the charge that "there have been seven mob murders in Mississippi in the past four months", laying the blame upon the sheriffs.

Lynchers Busy

Coincident with the issuing of the questionaire, however, were first page stories in Mississippi papers reciting cases of mob violence. In fact, just about the time the candidates in Forrest County were reading the open letter, a mob in Hazelhurst, Miss. was running every colored person out of town.

The town was crowded with the usual week-end gathering of farmers when a young woman learning to drive a car ran into a white woman and her small daughter. Immediately, the story got about that a Negro had attacked a white woman and the mob went to work. One woman, fleeing from the shrieking mob, fell over a pile of cross ties and broke her leg.

Florida Man In Anti-Lynch War

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 69 Fifth avenue, has received from Herbert A. Rider, an attorney of La Belle, Fla., a report on the fight against lynching in that state.

Speaking of the recent lynching of a colored man, Henry Patterson, Mr. Rider writes:

"It is true that the Circuit Court Judge and the State's Attorney 'whitewashed' the investigation of the lynching of Henry Patterson, but we stirred up such a hornet's nest throughout the state of Florida that lynching of colored people in this State will in the near future be eliminated.

"Before our fight, in the Henry Patterson lynching, colored people were not allowed in this (Hendry) County, but at this time we have several hundred and they are in no way molested. I used part of the fund you contributed in going to Tallahassee before the Governor and induced him to compel the executive officers of this county to protect the colored folk who were here and who may come later. Today the colored person is just as safe in this county as anywhere else in the Union. We made it so hot for the lynchers of Henry Patterson that we have no anticipation of another lynching of a colored person in this county. And the fight we made is having a wholesome effect throughout the entire state."

EDUCATIONAL LYNCHING

Great jubilation exists in Aframerica because the lynching rate is subsiding. We are rapidly approaching the time when no Negroes will be lynched except by due process of law. But what of the other form of mob violence from which the Negro suffers all over the South? What of the educational lynching? To deprive millions of young Negroes of proper instruction in schools is to effectively withhold from them the means of acquiring the higher wants and the capacity for attaining and enjoying them. This is a form of lynching almost as effective from the ignorant white people's point of view as hanging a Negro from a limb or incinerating him in a bonfire. Physical lynching is an expression of hatred and fear; educational lynching is precisely the same thing. The results of both forms are to keep Negroes servile and easily exploitable, and enable the white upper caste to skim the cream off of life without fear of competition. The extent of this educational lynching in the South is strikingly illustrated in a recent release broadcast by Mr. W. A. Robinson, president of the National Association of Teachers in Colored Schools. While there are in the Southern States about three white people to each Negro, there are 5,140 public and private accredited high schools for whites and only 205 for colored! Think of it! For eight million people only 205 accredited four-year high schools! The wealthy states of Alabama and South Carolina, with a combined Negro population of almost two millions, haven't a single four-year accredited public or private high school for Negroes between them. Marvelous Florida of the salubrious climate, spectacular lynchings and submarine real estate, can boast of two public high schools for merely 141 such high schools. Louisiana, with 700,000 Negroes and 1,100,000 whites has three public high schools for the former and a measly 340 such institutions for her lordly whites. Liberty-loving Mississippi, with more blacks than whites within her secred borders, has the huge total of seven public accredited high schools for the pampered blacks while the lesser number of the superior race must struggle along with the handicap of only 290 such schools. Georgia, with an equal number of blacks and whites, furnishes three public schools for the descendants of her former slaves while reserving only 309 for the descendants of the former convicts who founded the state. And so the story goes in almost every state. The vast difference between the North and the South is shown in the case of West Virginia, which, while listed as a Southern state and having jim-crow schools, is in reality a part of the North. Here the 86,000 Negroes comprising less than seven percent of the total population of the state, are given eight per cent of the four-year accredited high schools, or a total of 15 to the 188 for the 1,377,235 whites.

Now there are two ways of effectively injuring a person: By taking his life and by taking his money. Physical lynching takes the victim's life and terrorizes his surviving brethren into accepting a lower economic and social status; educational lynching is calculated to keep the victims perpetually in that lower status through enforced ignorance. Which is the most dangerous to our group, it is difficult to say. One thing is certain: Both forms of lynching must be vigorously and continuously combated. In bringing this incredible condition to the attention of the general public, the National ion of Teachers in Colored Schools has rendered a ervice.

SOUTHERN LAWLESSNESS

Within the past few weeks in the states of Georgia, Alabama and Florida, twenty of their citizens have been victims of lawless mobs. Most of these victims have been white, some of them white women. Practically none of those guilty of this lawlessness has been convicted in the courts of the several states. The southerner has been accustomed to lynching and mobbing colored citizens without any punishment from the courts. It is to be expected that this same southerner would think he could take the law in his hands and punish white people when they commit some real or imaginary crime.

Intolerance and mob rule must stop in the south. Colored people and white people who are charged with the commission of crime must be tried in an orderly way by the courts. If the laws on the statute books of the several states do not comprehend punishment of mobs, whether masked or unmasked, then the proper laws should be enacted to punish such criminals.

An anti-lynching bill, with teeth in it, would meet the issue. If the mobs continue in their lawlessness, and a few more white women are attacked, it is just possible that an anti-lynching and an anti-mob bill will be enacted into law by the congress.

TAMPA DISCOVERS A WAY

A white man in Tampa entered a home in the early morning a few days ago and mauled an entire family of five to death with a sledge hammer. The crime aroused a great wave of popular indignation which rapidly swept the city. And being in the chivalrous Southland, a mob soon formed bent on lynching the murderer. With a log they battered in he wall of the new jail to get the prisoner, only to be met by a volley from the sheriff and his deputies. Twelve of the mob were wounded, some seriously. The next day the militia arrived to take charge of the situation and when the mob returned to besiege the jail, it was met with fire from machine guns. That was the end of the mob's efforts.

Tampa has discovered a way to stop lynching. It is rather a tardy discovery, in view of the fact that the attention of the entire South has been called time and again to this very effective method. But it is better late than never. Other progressive communities, we hope, will follow suit, and not forget the example of Tampa when one of OUR brethren falls afoul of the law. Although mobs are eager for excitement, it is noteworthy that their enthusiasm for the task in hand usually abates in the face of a brisk rifle fire.

Lynchings a Shame and Disgrace to the Nation

The fiendish lynchings of Negroes by mobs of white men that not infrequently occur in the South, are a disgrace and a shame to the nation.

And sometimes they are a greater crime than that alleged as the provocation for the barbarous deed.

Even in the North and West Southern lynchings tend to create or deepen prejudice against the Negro as particularly prone to crimes of violence or outrages upon women.

But if under like circumstances in the South every white effender were lynched—in case of the murder of a black man or of assault upon a Negress—how would the racial account stand, comparatively speaking.

How did it stand before the Civil War, when the blacks in the South were merely chattels?—Fresno (Cal.) Bee.

Letter to Journal-Post Advocates Lynching of Williams, Then Burning

The following letter, signed by "A Texan", was published in the Kansas City Post Thursday, July 21:

Advice From Texas

To the Editor of The Journal-Post:

I certainly would like to pat Judge Southern on the shoulder for having the courage to do his duty by giving that dirty skunk, Cleo Williams, what he rightly deserves. It shows there is one man in Missouri with real red blood.

It is too bad that didn't happen in Texas instead of in slow Missouri, where they have enough red blooded gentlemen to take care of such cases so that there is no chance to put creatures like Cleo Williams in the pen where they have a chance to get out and do their crimes over again. I trust the governor is gentleman enough to let Judge Southern's decision stand, since hanging is too good for such dirty curs. Any man who would do one thing to help a skunk like that should have the same thing happen to his wife or daughter and see how he would feel.

If you haven't enough men in Missouri to take those birds out and string them up and set a match to them, you can get all you need from old Texas.

It used to be that a lady was thought safe when with a gentleman escort, but nowadays she is not safe when with two. They talk about the men and boys having to go to war to make our country safe for the women. It looks to me that there is plenty to do right here at home.

As for that other brute, they might as well give him the same as Williams, as he seems to be starting a life of crime pretty young and the only way to make our country safe for the women and girls is by hanging such dirty brutes the minute they are caught. So get to work, Old Missouri.

A TEXAN.

Lynchings-1927
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2433

THE LYNCHING LEAGUE

For the year 1926 the great state of Florida wins the pennant in the Lynching League of America. There are eight lynchings to the credit (or discredit) of the great commonwealth of real estate boosters, while closely following it is magnificent Texas with a paltry seven. Then there are our old friends Mississippi, with four; South Carolina, with three; Arkansas with two, and Georgia, Kentucky, New Mexico, Tennessee and Virginia with one each. These are the figures made public by Tuskegee Institute. The total is 29. The latest issue of The Crisis, however, puts the total at 31. Twenty-two of these unfortunates were Negroes, six were whites and one was an Indian. Two of the victims were women. The offenses charged were murder, 8; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; killing officer of the law, 5; wounding officer of the law, 2; attacking woman, 1; insulting woman, 1; frightening woman, 1; burglary, 1; charge not reported, 5.

It is to be noted that there is an increase of considerable size in the number of those lynched. Whereas only 18 were done to death in this manner in the year 1925, 29 were "enlightened" or "uplifted" in 1926 in accordance with the well-advertised Southern chivalry. It is encouraging to note, however, that in 1926 there were 33 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. In 27 cases the prisoners were removed from the jails or guards augmented. In the other six cases, armed force was used to repel the mob. In four instances indictments were issued against members of lynching mobs. Thirty-four persons were hailed before the courts for participation in lynchings and nine were sentenced to the penitentiary; one for life and the other eight for terms ranging from four to 20 years.

It is exceedingly doubtful whether the people of influence and culture in any of these states are proud of their state's record in the lynching league. The better class of whites have always deplored mob violence, but only in recent years has any appreciable number of them become outspoken against this mass murder. In many cities and towns in the South the leading citizens have put themselves on record as being firmly against the practice and have insisted that the police must take drastic action to prevent recurrence of the evil. Governor Walker of Georgia has begun a campaign against "hooded men" who assault, maim and kill, saying that "mobs with heads covered with flour sacks shall not rule in Georgia." Before him, it was Governor Dorsey who made an expose of the frightful conditions existing in the Empire State of the South. Former Governor Morrow, now head of the U. S. Railway Labor Board, called out the militia to protect a Negro prisoner and ordered them to shoot to kill if necessary to control the mob. In many of the cities and towns of the South there are Inter-Racial Committees where the better class of Negroes and whites meet and exchange opinions and offer suggestions concerning conditions in their communities. While these committees are rather timid and fearful of arousing wrath, it cannot be denied that they have done much to mould a more tolerant public opinion and helped to strengthen the hands of those white people in the South who really want to do the right thing by the Negro and abide by the laws. This newer and more civilized attitude toward the Negro and law enforcement has also gained a great deal of support from the white women of the South through their clubs and associations. There are those who will sneer at these various tendencies as petty and palliative, but it must be remembered that a great problem is being dealt with and that it takes time, and lots of it, to solve great problems. It is certain that the gradual building up of a civilized and law-abiding attitude in each Southern city and town, where blacks and whites have lived side by side, and will continue to so live for many decades, is far more conducive to permanently reducing the number of lynchings than the vociferous strictures of those far removed from the scene, as useful as they may often be to dramatize the situation and arouse responsible citizens from their legarthy.

But after all, since all the problems confronting the Negro have an economic basis, such problems are only solved by economic change. Lynching, mob violence, insult and terrorism have been on the decline since the late war, not because of agitation but because of the migration of Negro labor from the South with all that implied. Labor creates everything except natural resources and when the South observed all this creative power deserting Dixie, efforts were made to make Negro labor more contented in the cotton states. This explains in a large measure the sudden interest on the part of Southern whites.

Retiring Governor Of South Carolina Condemns Lynching

Wants Every Individual, Assuming Office To Make A Pledge To Stay Free From Mobs. Governor Elect Silent On Prosecuting Lynchers

Associated Negro Press

COLUMBIA, S. C., Jan. 21—In his farewell message to the State Legislature, Wednesday, Thomas G. McLeod, retiring governor of South Carolina, proposed the following declaration from every individual assuming office:

"I have not, since the.....day of .....taken part in a lynching as principal, accessory, or otherwise, and I will not during the term of office to which I have been elected or appointed take part in a lynching as principal, accessory or otherwise."

The retiring governor's message further decried lynching and referred particularly to the lynching of the Lowmans some months ago. McLeod termed this crime as "This horrible and uncalled for murder." He reviewed the steps that had been taken to bring the murderers to justice and defended his action in not calling a special term of court to thrash out the matter, claiming that it was not within his power to do so, but urged the speedy trial of the lynchers, declaring:

"I earnestly hope that law-abiding citizens will back up the prosecution; that the jurors will have the courage to do their duty; that the perpetrators of this horrible crime may be brought to the bar of justice and dealt with as they deserve."

Governor-elect Richards has been silent as to whether he will do anything to activate the prosecution of the lynchers if indicted. It is, however, reported that he has not reappointed W. W. Rogers, who has had charge of the Aiken investigation, as one of the constables.

TELLS COOLIDGE OF MOB VIOLENCE

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 27.—If the Federal Government has the authority to declare martial law in Herrin, Ill., because of a riotous uprising in that community, why cannot similar action be taken in the various communities where lynchings occur and mob violence exists, is the unique question President Coolidge has promised to submit to the United States Attorney General, according to Dr. S. R. Williams and Mrs. Ruth C. Whaley, of New York, who called on President Coolidge last Tuesday and had a 20-minute talk with him about the horrible disgrace that the numerous lynchings bring upon the fair name of the United States.

The President is reported to have deplored the fact that justice has not been allowed to take its regular and orderly course, and spoke especially of the Lowman case in South Carolina as well as the one in Texas. He intimated that those two recent outbursts of savagery were the most conspicuous lynching blots on this country's history. He said if we can't protect our colored citizens, then we can't protect any citizens, according to the report of the visitors.

The difficulty of securing passage of an anti-lynching law was cited by the President, who recalled that, while he was vice president, senators opposing the Dyer bill filibustered four days.

Mrs. Whaley, who is a lawyer, raised the point of invoking the same power and authority the Government used at Herrin, Ill., in quelling the devastating uprising and mob rule. President Coolidge is reported to have admitted the suggestion was a new one, never before considered in connection with lynchings by him.

SENTIMENT HOLDS MAN OFF WHILE A WOMAN DIES

FEAR

Another evidence of the queer twist which American prejudice may take is found in the case of an automobile accident in Danville, Virginia, in which four young white women, victims, pinned beneath the wreckage, failed to get assistance from a passing Negro

man who claims he feared that he would get himself into trouble should he be found so close to the party of women.

Victim of Sentiment

The Negro who is alleged to have walked over and looked beneath the car, according to a report from reliable sources, lived in a neighborhood where just a short time before considerable feeling had been shown against a colored man who attempted to release a white woman's foot from a stirrup when she fell from a horse that she was riding, he being actually driven from the scene when white men came up and for some time afterwards lived in actual fear of bodily harm.

According to this report too, the Negro did not "go to the car and peer beneath it," but simply stood off and saw the wreck, observed that only white women were present, and knew that the sentiment of the white men around was for him or any other Negro to play "hands off," which sentiment he probably, in this instance, reluctantly obeyed, leaving the white woman an unfortunate victim of prejudice evidenced by her white protectors against well meaning colored men.

Considerable resentment of the man's actions has been voiced by civic authorities and citizens as well who believe that the life of the woman might have been saved had he stopped to render aid. The deputy sheriff of the county stated that an effort would be made to apprehend him. If the Negro is arrested the commonwealth's attorney will be asked to say whether a criminal charge may be placed against him. When it was found that the life of Miss Watlington might have been saved by the timely aid of the Negro, resentment was said to have been high in Ruffin and Reidsville, all of which proves that a black man is never sure of the safest course to take when he is forced to respect so capricious a thing as race-prejudice.

THE AGE READERS' FORUM

"Lynching Confusion of 1926"

Editor of The New York Age:

Just how far the increase or decrease in the lynchings of one calendar year as against another, represents a change in the moral nature of a community, is difficult to ascertain. In other words, just how far one can go in believing or stating that communities are improving in attitude of tolerance as a result of fewer lynchings in one year as compared to another, is the question. It has been always difficult for the writer to accept these annual comparisons in figures as conclusive evidence, as representing a change in attitude.

During the lean years of lynching it is interesting to see some half dozen or more organizations, each claiming the credit for having influenced the behaviour of the would-be lynchers, to the extent that the "neck-tie parties" and other forms of mob violence have been discouraged. In 1926 we have 13 more persons lynched than during the year 1925. Two of these were women. It must be kept in mind that the names of a great many Negroes, who "come to their death at the hands" of parties unknown never appear in public print.

About a year ago, at a certain Negro institution of learning, the head of the agriculture department was shot down on the campus by a mob in broad open daytime and the only information that has come out of the community has been by word of mouth, and that in a whisper, because of penalty of death. Because the southern newspapers generally condemn lynching and criticize the officials for negligence of duty, and because the average local community fears the passage of the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill, every effort is made to suppress this unwelcome news, so that many Negroes disappear from their communities overnight, unwept, unhonored and unsung.

The annual report of lynching always raises this question in our minds, whether the increase or decrease of the past year over some previous year, represents a growing feeling of tolerance, or a larger or smaller numbers of controversies or misunderstandings on the part of members of the two groups for the given year. That is, if you have fewer Negroes stealing mules, disputing a white man's word, attempting an assault on an officer or insulting women, one year than another, all things being equal you have perhaps a fewer lynchings. That brings up the question whether the change is going on in the Negro community or in the white community. If Negroes are more submissive and refrain from the commission of the crimes above mentioned will he escape the mob of midnight riders?

A few days ago in Georgia a mob went to find a man who was alleged to have committed a crime. Aftter searching the house and failing to find the man wanted, one member of the mob is accredited to have said, "We must have a nigger tonight." So they proceeded to kill a seventeen year old boy. One Negro was lynched for frightening a woman in 1926. Just how far this can be controlled is difficult for us to appreciate. The latter are two new causes, one resulting from the failure to find the man being hunted, the other from frightening a woman.

With these two new causes added for 1927, will we have correspondingly more lynching? When the cause for lynching transposes from rape or criminal assault upon woman to the frightening of a woman, or the failure to find the wanted victim, "there is confusion."

JESSE THOMAS
Field Secretary National Urban League.

AIKEN GRAND JURY IS TOLD "TIME FOR WORDS IS PAST"-JUDGE JOHNSON

AIKEN, S.C.—Judge J. Henry Johnson, presiding at the Aiken grand jury before which will be laid the Lowman lynching case for the fourth time, demanded action of the jurors, Monday, January 4.

"The time for words is past," he declared. "It is time for action; say you propose to bring the lynchers to justice, or say that you don't propose to do anything. And God help you, Colored and South Carolina if you fail to do something."

The judge denounced the Lowman lynching as "deliberate, wilful, cowardly murder."

A further lecture was given the jury when court was opened at 10 o'clock and five jurors were absent.

Addresses Jury

"Gentlemen," said Judge Johnson, "this is the first time in my four years on the bench that I have opened court and found as many as five grand jurors not present. I do not understand it, unless you are mighty lax up here. I'll state now, that when court is in session, there are only two places for jurors and witnesses, in the court house or in jail."

Judge Johnson spoke for nearly an hour, but his direct reference to the lynchings of Bertha, Demon, and Clarence Lowman consumed only a short period. His predecessors, he said, had already covered the ground fully.

Consent by Silence

He asked the Aiken citizens if they ever condemned the lynchings by mass meetings or otherwise, or if they had given their tacit consent by silence.

"The eyes of South Carolina, indeed of America are on Aiken county today," he declared, "because its good name has been besmirched by a little band of wilful, lawless men."

The remainder of his talk to the jurors was devoted to his conception of the reason for lawlessness in the country today. He declared that petit jurors have not been doing their duty, that judges have contributed by failing to impose adequate sentences, and that delays of the law have been responsible. He mentioned also what he termed the "virtual breakdown of parental authority in the home."

Attorney-General Absent

The Aiken case did not come up for immediate consideration because of the absence of several of the principals. Attorney-General John M. Daniel, in charge of the lynching case for the state, was not in the court room, nor was W. W. Rogers, state detective who has been working up the evidence.

Solicitor Berte D. Carter who will assist the attorney-general was engaged in preparing other cases on the docket. Sheriff Robinson, who denied to Governor MeLeod participation in the lynching as charged in affidavits made by occupants of the jail, was performing his customary duties, while J. Percy Hart, former state constable, who also denied similar allegations connecting his name with the case, was present as a witness in a number of liquor cases.

Six members of the present grand jury are hold-overs from the 1926 body which met three times to investigate the lynchings, only to ask finally for a discharge, reporting no progress in their inquiry.

Plans Thwarted

Governor McLeod, in a recent public statement, said that he believed the evidence obtained by Rogers and otherwise was sufficient to warrant the calling of a special term of court in order for it to be placed before the grand jury, but the attorney-general and the solicitor, he declared, disagreed with him and thwarted his plans.

If the grand jury in this present inquiry should fail to act, one other course is open to the state. Warrants could be sworn out on the basis of the evidence in hand against suspects.

Governor Makes Statement

Governor John G. Richards, the newly inaugurated governor of South Carolina, indicates he will cooperate in cleaing the name of the state. He has issued a statement declaring:

"The evidence that has been secured in what is known as the Aiken lynching will be presented to the grand jury of Aiken County, during the present term of court. I regard this as one of the most important matters inherited by my administration.

Lynchings-1927
Discussions.

Negro Press, (Northern.)

2434

LINDBERGH AND LYNCHING

With the dramatic achievement of Colonel Charles Lindbergh, the United States leaped to the forefront in the world of aviation and in the hearts and imagination of all peoples. Here was daring youth, coupled with great engineering skill and mechanical perfection, triumphing over great odds and plucking the golden apple of award while the world resounded with acclamation. By this one stirring accomplishment the prestige of this Republic was tremendously enhanced in many countries where before the tide of jealousy, suspicion and hatred had risen to alarming proportions.

But for every good there is an evil—as Anatole France quite correctly says. Though the stock of America was boosted considerably by this truly marvelous feat, it was immediately lowered in the esteem of humanitarians the world over by a double burning of Negroes in Mississippi. Not satisfied to celebrate the return of Lindbergh to this country in the manner adopted by more civilized sections of the country, Mississippi had to outstrip the rest of the country by staging a lynching. Not just an ordinary lynching with benefit of Manila hemp, but a de luxe lynching: i. e., saturation of the victims with gasoline, tying them to a telephone pole and then applying the torch.

Of course no intelligent Negro is any longer surprised at anything that happens in Mississippi, unless it be the triumph of justice and tolerance. The state is so steeped in ignorance and savagery (with apologies to savages) that the only wonder is that so few Negroes are lynched and burned. Even at a time when great jubilation swept over the land, Mississippi could not forget to live up to her tradition of mob murder.

The exploit of Lindbergh is one expression of the pioneering spirit of America; that double Mississippi burning is another. The latter is more American than the former,

DOWN AT LITTLE ROCK

It was a great day at Little Rock, Ark., when five thousand white people, men, women and children participated in the lynching of a Negro in that city a few days ago. It was horrible !! Yes beyond discription. Just imagine a poor helpless human being after being strangled and shot to death, with rope still about his neck, tied to an auto and dragged through the main street of the city several times, leaving blood stains and fragments of flesh in the wake, while thousands followed crying and screaming for fire! fire!!

As the leaders heard their cry for fire, the suggestion was made to ge to the Negro section and have the climax. Having reached the desired spot coal oil, gasoline and other inflammable substance were brought into play and a bonfire hastily consumed the helpless body which had been strangled, shot nearly fifty times and dragged several blocks through the streets.

It was a wonderful sight to see white women and children hopping around in fiendish glee, not to be excelled by any heathens in their worship of idol Gods. Even women with babes in their arms and those expecting to become mothers were participants in this festival of racial hate? Wonderful yes, one can't help wondering, what manner of people they be. Surely, the heathens of the darkest continent would blush if such a sight were possible in their land. Wonder, yes, we wonder if Little Rock, like many other so-called christian communities in America, could rank with Sodom and Gommorrah, the wicked cities of old. And while we believe in a just God, yet we feel some times like the Psalmist, "surely, I've cleansed my heart in vain."

MOB PSYCHOLOGY

Another aspect of mob psychology was revealed during the recent lynching-burning at "little rock" is shown by the action of the mob in staging the burning of a Negro right in front of the Mosaic Temple of America's building.

The Mosaic Temple building is the most representative business institution owned by the colored people in "little rock," and is envied and coveted by the whites. Therefore, the mob psychology said this is a good chance to burn that building. The red flag was waived in the Negroes' face, and all the mob wanted was a half of an excuse, so that the Negroes' business might be sent up in smoke and reduced to ashes.

This ought to be a fair warning to the Negroes, especially in the South that the poor class of whites who are too lazy to work and do something for themselves are envious of the Negroes success. And are like the man who gets drunk to express his sober thoughts.

WHY SO MANY LYNCHINGS?

With the lynching-burning of two Negroes down in Mississippi this week, and recalling the recent lynching-burning of a Negro in Little Rock Ark;, and another recent lynching in Mississippi, comes the question: what is the matter with this people?

It will be noticed, that this lynching epidemic comes with the flood terrorism which has visited this section of the country during the past six weeks An analysis of the cause for this unusual outburst of lawlessness ,indicates that the white people, who are among the big losers as a result of the floods, are mad, vexed and highly accentuated with the spirit of revenge; and therefore, are vengeful. Like the fox or wolf, just any old excuse to fall upon the weak among them and get their revenge.

Of course, these people understand that, man is the nearest symbol of God. Therefore, to mob, murder, lynch and burn the Negroes by them at a time like this, is to be regarded a mockery at God. Or in other words "getting back" at the Ruler of wind and rain. "Vengeance is mine," saith the Lord.

When we see these things in such bold defiance, we can't but feel like praying: HOW LONG OH LORD, WILT THOU SUFFER THESE THINGS. COME SPEEDILY AND DELIVER US FROM OUR ENEMIES.

Miss. Degenerates Lynch On Lindbergh Day

NEW YORK.—The N. A. A. C. P. telegraphed President Coolidge calling to his attention that on the very day New York and the nation were celebrating Charles Lindbergh's and America's triumph before the world in aviation, a crowd of "degenerate barbarians" in Mississippi tied two Negroes charged with murder to a telephone pole, saturated them with gasoline and burned them alive, humiliating this country before the nations of the earth.

The action of the unpunished lynching of Alken, South Carolina, is also cited as justifying the plea that the President demand a federal anti-lynching law at the next session of Congress. The telegram to President Coolidge, signed by James Weldon Johnson, Secretary of the Association adds:

It is safe to say that in no spot on earth except the Southern States of America, in particular the State of Mississippi, would such a degenerate act and bestial violation of all decent human instincts as the burning alive of two human beings accused of murder, be tolerated.

In the name with any pretense to respect for the honor of their native land, the National Association urges you to demand of Congress at its next session the prompt enactment of a federal anti-lynching law.

ERSATZ LYNCHING

During the late war for democracy the Germans found it necessary, because of the economic blockade by the allied navies, to use many food substitutes. There was ersatz (substitute) bread, ersatz butter, ersatz milk, and so forth. These substitutes enabled the Teutons to continue the war although the national larder was almost empty. All the great scientific skill and knowledge of the German nation was brought to bear on this problem, with the result that the armies of the Kaiser were able to stay in the field and the workers behind the front were able to furnish them with the sinews of war.

Something similar is taking place in this country. For many years the Southern States have had a deservedly bad reputation because of the large number of lynchings staged in behalf of white supremacy. Since the war certain of the few intelligent white people in the more civilized localities have come to realize the economic effect of this adverse advertising, and have sought to remove it by reducing the number of lynchings to as near zero as possible, without at the same time removing the system of terrorism by which white supremacy is maintained. Thus we have the Inter-Racial Commissions and the frequent and fervent appeals by liberal Southern whites for "due process of law" in dealing with Negroes, instead of the old methods of torch, rope, gun, tar and feathers. They argue that, while it is perfectly all right to segregate Negroes from the cradle to the grave and discriminate against them in almost every way imaginable in order that the Nordics will ever remain supreme socially, politically and economically, at the same time this effect should be achieved with more finesse, and not by means of the cruder methods of yesteryear. This to the end that the necessary Negro labor be not scared away from the fields of tobacco, cotton and corn. For, argue they, what profiteth a man to retain his supremacy and lose his serfs?

So the old method of terrorizing Negroes into submission by lynchings and burnings is on the decline. Today we have Ersatz Lynching. And this ersatz lynching takes the form of mock trials, in which verdicts of guilty are reached in from ten to fifteen minutes and the victim sentenced to life imprisonment or death in the electric chair or on the gallows.

Such a trial was recently staged in Arkansas. A 17-year-old Negro lad in Little Rock, who was accused of murdering a 12-year-old white girl, had miraculously escaped a mob of crude old-fashioned lynchers, armed with all the implements of their trade. Lots were drawn to select attorneys to defend the youth. Selected, the former begged time in which to examine the indictment and prepare a defense. The selection of attorneys took place on a Wednesday; the trial was held on Thursday. After a prolonged deliberation, the jury arrived at a verdict of guilty AFTER TEN WHOLE MINUTES of examining the evidence. This boy will therefore die in the electric chair at an early date, after a trial that was no trial at all, in the generally accepted sense of the word.

We congratulate the gentlemen of the South, and particularly of Little Rock. The new technique in lynching is superbly effective. The world outside gets the impression that the section is becoming more civilized; that lynching and mob violence is very largely a thing of the past; and that Negroes are getting fair trials. Southern liberals boast of the great wave of tolerance sweeping over Dixie; their Negro satellites nod their heads in acquiescence; Chambers of Commerce have another talking point to snare Northern businesses; and yet the Negro is "kept in his place" and effectively, if less picturesquely, terrorized as of yore. Chivalrous gentlemen, we salute you! Ersatz lynching is a magnificent success!—from the Southern point of view.

Why doesn't President Coolidge interest himself about the burning of two colored men at Louisville, Mississippi, as well as looking after the rescue Mississippi Flood suffers? While he is enjoying happiness in the Black Hills, his black subjects of the south are suffering (Hades).

Hon. Calvin Coolidge
President of United States
Rapid City, S. D.
My Dear President:

We are proud to note the arrival and happiness of you in your summer capital, and we hope you have an enjoyable time and everything goes well with you.

As the editor of the paper and a member of the race which seems to have very little standing before the southern white, who give no recognition or respect to the rights of the colored race in the southern states; and aided, assisted and abetted by officials of the National government, who should be fair and impartial to all citizens alike by enforcing the Constitution and causing all citizens to be respected equally before the law. I wish to call your attention to the lack of protection given Negroes and to the recent burning in Mississippi. There should be no discrimination when it comes to exercising the rights of citizens whether they be white, black, yellow, old young, rich or poor. Every American should have the protection of the law and their God given rights.

At Louisville, Mississippi a few days ago two colored men were burned alive by a mob of white southerners who felt that they were duty bound to outrage, murder, pilfer and steal from the colored people of that section of the country without even being arrested or a charge filed against them.

Yet, Mr. President, you have the Constitution, you have the Army and the Navy and your Cabinet to back up anything you may demand for the preservation of peace and unity between the people of this great Commonwealth. This peace was fixed for you by the late president, Abraham Lincoln and the late president General U. S. Grant.

We are at loss to know how you can enjoy all the comforts of life, surrounded by secret service men and United States soldiers to protect you and your life, and at the same time a few million of colored people in the Southland have no protection and no attempt is made to protect their rights and protect them from murder and assassins for the reason that you as President of the United States do not assume the responsibility of compelling the enforcement of such laws as backed by the fourteenth and fifteenth amendments.

If your cabinet officers were aroused to their sense of duty much pressure could be brought to bear thru them, because the Southerners would surrender Civil War prejudices to the colored race, and come into the Union of Peace and Happiness.

Mr. President, when the Savior was here on earth He went about proclaiming from the housetops to the mountains what the duty of the citizens should be to each other. He went into the temple and scourged and drove the wicked from therein. He was not silent on these matters, nor did He surrender to the Devil and his angels ,but continued healing the sick and raising the dead and casting out the devil. We cannot see how a President of the United States can sit idly by and see his living subjects burned to death by a degenerated class of evil doers. If the Savior could speak of the wrongs and sins of the people in those days why cannot the President of the United States? We are calling your attention to the fact that there never was a white man burned at stake in this country by a mob. This shows you that the feeling in the South is against the colored race, for the reason that their ancestors were slaves and made it possible for the southern whites to live at ease without labor. After losing this great hold on labor they have sought to make up what they lost in the Civil War. Peonage was and is rampant in the Southern states as it is in Old Mexico only ten times worse. This is what the government officials appointed by some of your cabinet officers could eradicate, if you would appoint colored officers along with white officers to ferret out these outrages. As long as you will have all white officers, peonage will exist. We know that if colored men were given any appointments from your cabinet officers they would enforce not only the eighteenth amendment, but the fourteenth and fifteenth amendments.

We notice very carefully, Mr. President, that your cabinet officers are quick to take cognizance of any outrage that [illegible] against any American white people in foreign countries and especially in Mexico, where the American oil barons are trying to emplant themselves by taking from the Mexican people their property rights. But not one word or one effort is made to prosecute or arrest or stop the burning of human beings in this our land and home of the free and the brave.

We humbly beseech you, we pray that you will break your silence by coming out in the public press and denouncing the burning of these two human beings at Louisville, Miss., and that you call upon the state officials along with the government officials to use every effort in bringing the guilty parties to justice. The citizens of the colored race seem to have no protection from any quarter, not even their own President of the United States.

We wish to call your attention to the proclamation issued by the late President U. S. Grant while occupying the chair in the White House for the protection of colored people.

Yours truly,
NICK CHILES.
Editor of Plaindealer.
President Kansas Defense Society.

Lynchings - 1927
Discussions.

Negro Press, (Northern)

2435

STIMULATING MIGRATION.

One day last week at Little Rock, Arkansas, a grand jury indicted a Negro for murder. Recognizing the lawless tendencies of the community and apparently seeking to prevent a lynching, the grand jury announced that it would take action against any persons who attempted to take the law in their own hands. The answer to this warning came a day later, when another Negro accused of an attack on two white women, was lynched by a defiant mob of citizens, who saturated the body with gasoline and burned it at one of the principal corners in the colored section of the city.

According to the newspaper accounts, this spectacle was witnessed by thousands of people, to the accompaniment of the firing of guns and the cries of women and children. The Negro population scattered as the mob came dragging the body along, until it formed the center of a huge bonfire. The police, according to report, were outnumbered and powerless to act. They confined their efforts to directing traffic, which was congested for blocks around. The victim of the mob, said to be twenty-two years old, was reported to have confessed to making an attack on a woman and her seventeen year old daughter.

As this confession was said to have been made after the mob of several thousand men had captured him in a tree, it is open to conjecture as to whether it was the result of terror or not. However, putting aside the question of the guilt of the accused, it does not appear that there was any doubt that he would have been convicted and executed legally if time had been given for a trial by jury. The killing and burning was purely a manifestation of mob ferocity, deliberately indulged in despite the warning of the grand jury, that any such attempt would be punished by the law. The mob either felt nothing but contempt for the law and the grand jury, or else credited the latter with making a purely perfunctory gesture, intended to preserve the standing of Arkansas in the eyes of the outside world.

But how about the Negro residents of Little Rock, who saw their home section invaded by a ruthless mob, who perpetrated barbarous atrocities on the body of a dead man because he was black, and burned him with the aid of gasoline, at a street corner? Was this episode calculated to reassure them as to the safety of their persons and property in Little Rock, or any other place in Arkansas? Regardless of whether the victim of this atrocity was guilty of a crime or not, his horrible killing demonstrated the cheapness of a Negro's life in Arkansas. The natural reaction among [illegible] witnessed or would be ritory to

WHITE EDITORS SCORE BURNING OF 2 AT STAKE

The recent burning of two men at the stake in Louisville, Miss., has brought forth a storm of scathing remarks from the white press throughout the Middle West and North. Conspicuous among the dailies that spoke out in no unmistakable terms are the New York World, ever fearless and ever ready to take up arms in defense of justice and the weak, and the Boston Post. But no paper has come nearer to stating facts and denouncing the mob spirit in America than the Topeka State Journal of Kansas. The editorial, reprinted below, shows the degree to which fair-minded white editors have been aroused by the barbarity of white men and women of Mississippi:

"NO FURTHER TROUBLE"

"Everything is reported quiet at Louisville and officers expect no further trouble."

This is the final word from the Mississippi town where a mob of 1,000 men seized two Negroes accused of murdering the white boss of a sawmill and burned them alive.

"No further trouble" is the order of the day. And if Mississippi lives up to her shameful precedents, there will be no further trouble. Nd trouble for the cowardly officers that surrendered their prisoners. (Not cowards—they were overpowered, you say. Well, they are alive, and not even wounded.)

There will be no convictions. There will be no arrests. If the fine customs of southern chivalry are observed, there won't even be an investigation.

The Mississippians are a peace-loving people. They love to burn "niggers," but they hate trouble. The sawmill boss is dead and in heaven, the niggers have passed from one hell to another, and everything's quiet in Louisville.

Why should there be any trouble? The white folks must have their fun. Who would interfere? The state government won't and the national government can't. The United States has a peculiar interest in the maintenance of orderly government, President Coolidge tells us, in the countries south of our border and north of the Panama canal. Mississippi isn't included in that territory. In Mississippi the people can have their fun whenever they want it.

With the good people of Louisville and their officers, let us rejoice. Thank God, there will be no more trouble!

There is no defense for lynching, and there is only one way to abolish the evil. That is by white editors speaking out plainly against it. More such editorials as this will go far toward bringing this country to her senses.

"Lynch Him!" in New York

(Editorial in the New York World.)

On a subway platform the other day a Negro stabbed a man, and immediately the crowd began to yell "Lynch him!" Then appeared on the scene Patrolman Gosselin of the East Thirty-fifth street station, and in a decisive manner he collared the Negro, who had already been cuffed around considerably, and hauled him off to the station house. The incident is of interest to all who give any attention to the lynching problem. The temper of the crowd unquestionably was ugly. Had it been dealt with half-heartedly, as many a county sheriff deals with a crowd, there is no telling what might have happened. But one resolute New York cop settled the whole fracas in a few seconds. The difference is that the county sheriff secretly has a suspicion that his prisoner is going to be lynched, anyhow, and thus is licked before he appears on the steps of the jail. But the New York cop hasn't the faintest notion that his prisoner is going to be lynched, and hence when he faces a crowd he means business. One could wish for a few Patrolman Gosselins stationed at strategic points throughout the country.

WIFE'S SAD WAIL STILL RINGS IN LOWMAN'S EARS

Father Of Lynched Family Tells New York Audience Of Ghastly Night

THANKS N. Y. DAILY FOR LYNCHING FIGHT

White Murderers Of Dixie Hung Heads In Shame He Tells Paper.

NEW YORK, N. Y.—"The pleadings of my wife begging the mob not to shoot her still ring in my ears," was one of the dramatic statements made by Samuel Lowman, head of the Aiken family so brutally mobbed some time ago, as he spoke in the New Manhattan Casino, here Thursday evening.

Before a crowded hall, Lowman pictured many of the details of his experiences which have stirred the conscience of the nation. While it took the speaker just five minutes to make his "speech", so tense was the audience that it appeared hours.

He told of his first arrest, when a mob, accusing him of having whiskey in his possession, came to his home and got him. "For this I served 19 months on the chain gang," he said, "and had to be guarded to prevent my being lynched."

Heard Wife's Wail

The most dramatic part of his talk came when he stated he listened in

"I want to thank the 'World' for called the blood curdling incident, in what they did about the lynching of which he witnessed the mob taking my children, Bertha, Demon and his children out of the same jail in Clarence, down in Aiken," he said, which he was incarcerated and do- with its campaign for the punish- ing them to death. ment of the lynchers."

"I was in the penitentiary then, but I saw the fruits of it. There were head men in the penitentiary with their heads hanging down, hanging down because their hands were stained with the lynching."

Lowman, who spoke Wednesday night at the New Manhattan Casino under the auspices of the National Negro Development Union vividly re- as well as his wife begged the mob not to shoot her and the children. Drawing himself into a tense pose, he stated that he still heard her pleading in his ears.

Lowman told an AFRO-AMERICAN reporter that he planned to live in Philadelphia the rest of his life. He resides there at 1537 Park avenue.

Thanks Paper

While in New York Lowman visited the New York World and paid his respect to that journal for the fight it made to bring the lynchers to justice.

LYNCHINGS—FOR CASH

Civil suits for damages are more effective in stopping mobs than criminal prosecution. Two communities, which have recently been the scenes of violence, Coffeyville, Kansas and Little Rock, Arkansas, are now clearing up the aftermath of the mob, the one using the former and the other the latter method. We predict Coffeyville will get the larger respect for the law.

"It is impossible to indict a community." No matter how changed the South is toward lynching, state prosecution will not convict lynchers because under American jurisprudence, juries are the judges of the facts in criminal trials and an accused person once in jeopardy and acquitted, is freed forever. On the other hand, no matter who wins a civil suit in the lower courts, the opponent can appeal, and finally the case will be heard where the howls of the multitude, the pressure of the politician, and the appeal of the leading citizen, have no weight. In short the pocketbook is more vulnerable than the conscience, because relatives and neighbors can free a prisoner, but do not have the last word in a suit.

There should be no let-up in the effort to convict law breakers who take part in mobs. Besides the injustice they do, with their hasty judgments and inhuman punishment, they are less than the average criminals in that they are cowards. They have not the courage of the murderer, the hold-up, the housebreaker and the gangster. They are crime in its worst aspect. They kill for the sake of killing, not for what good they expect to get out of it. They lie, when they have no fear of conviction. Take the Missouri mob down at Columbia which hung a Negro to a bridge girder. It took his life and was dastard enough to say of him dead that he had committed an unmentionable crime, never proved, and afterward admitted to have been without foundation. Mobs assassinate not only the body of their victims, but reputation as well. They should be hunted down without mercy, for the sake of preserving the better elements of our population. But it still appears that the dollar attack is the one which will get results.

Communities which stand idly by and let their worse citizens kill and destroy, resting easy because a complacent prosecution and faithless jury can clean the slate, are not willing to pay the price of defending their treasuries through the various courts where appeals go. Tax payers who do not care what victim dies, do not keep quiet when an extra mill is added to the tax rate. Eyes look and do not see the members of the mob, so long as lynching is free. But when the victim dead, is as expensive as another mile of hard road, or another wing on the hospital, entertainment of the Little Rock variety is too expensive to be tolerated.

If we are right, then the next step is to ask the passage by the Missouri legislature of an anti-mob law which makes the county defendant whenever its officers do not give protection to life and property.

Sam Lowman Visits Office Of N. Y. World

FATHER OF MOB'S VICTIMS THANKS PAPER—SAYS HE'LL NEVER GO BACK

NEW YORK CITY, June 2.—(By A. N. P.)—Sam Lowman, father of the victims of the Aiken mob last autumn, dropped into the office of the New York World to "thank the World for what it did about the lynching" of his children down in Aiken, S. C.

Mr. Lowman, who shook the dust of South Carolina from his feet immediately after he was released from jail after the lynching of his children, gave a graphic account of the tragedy which robbed him of his loved ones, before a large audience that gathered at the Manhattan Casino Wednesday night.

"I was in jail," said Mr. Lowman, "when they were taken out. And I heard one man say, 'get the old man, too.' But while I was spared the direct wrath of the mob, you can imagine how I felt to see my children being dragged out to be killed and be helpless to aid them."

Mr. Lowman is now living in Philadelphia, with four of his children, and according to his statement, he has no intention whatever of returning to Aiken or the south.

WILL LYNCHINGS DECREASE NOW?

Preston News Service.

Nebraska passes the anti-lynching bill which was introduced into the legislature of that state by Ferdinand L. Barnaett, Negro member of the lower house. This bill provides that the sum of $1,000 be paid by such counties, to the heirs of any person killed by mob violence within their boundaries. With the successful passage of this bill, mob rule receives a death blow, and another method is provided whereby the law may take its course and justice have at least a chance—Where a penalty is involved, the protection afforded prisoners will be proportionate.

News also comes from Gulfport, Miss., that a mob of infuriated whites seeking to lynch two Negroes on the charge of killing a white man, lost its ardour and cooled its anger in the face of a machine gun placed at the Gulfport jail. This is indeed good news, to learn that a determined and fearless sheriff in the south has played well his part as exponent of the law, by using extreme measures of force to out-wit the almost indomitable desire of a lawless mob, and give his prisoner the full protection of the law, of which mob vengeance deprives him.

Very recently, in Kentucky, a medal was bestowed on one of these brave sheriffs, by the Southern Interracial Commission, as a reward for saving the life of a prisoner through strategy.—reward is ever productive of greater effort.

From these cases just cited, it can readily be seen that there are more ways than one, by which lynching can be prevented, if it is the earnest desire of those who represent the law and of those who are sincerely interested in the right of justice. Whether a prisoner's life be protected from the mob by artifice, force or legislation, the result is about the same. Law has a chance to take its due course.

Conspicuous Editorials

THE MOB SPIRIT

(Hattiesburg American)

Sunday afternoon the mob spirit broke loose in Hattiesburg To our credit be it said that the precipitating cause was not local in any respect. The governor of Mississippi in pursuance of his plain duty ordered General Curtis Green, commander of the Mississippi National Guard, to protect four Negroes implicated either as principals or witnesses in the fiendish murder of two Hinds county white women. The militiamen brought two of the Negroes to Hattiesburg, placed them in the Forrest county jail and went about their duty of guarding these men in a quiet and efficient manner.

A hundred or more cars from Jackson and points to the north of Hattiesburg, followed the troops to our jail. Hundreds of curious local folks appeared on the scene. Some of the leading citizens of Hattiesburg rushed to the jail and assured Captain McClure and his associate guardsmen of their moral support. Lieutenant-Governor Lowrey Love explained to the crowd that the men incarcerated here were material witnesses and not guilty of the dastardly crime themselves. District Attorney Howie of Hinds county, addressed the milling throng to the same effect. The situation never got out of control. Civilization never broke down. But the mob spirit was certainly present.

For three hours the writer rubbed shoulders with folks in the crowd. Most of them were simply attempting to satisfy their curiosity. They were waiting for something to happen. But there were others who had murder in their hearts. Men made statements on the courthouse lawn Sunday afternoon which they must answer for at God's great day of judgment. Men committed murder in their hearts just as truly as if they had choked the life out of the fiend they sought.

The brute who killed those innocent victims of his lust is guilty of one of the most horrible crimes which has occurred in Mississippi in years. He deserves to hang for it. But the only man authorized by the law to hang him is the sheriff of Hinds county after he has been tried and legally convicted. To kill him unlawfully is to stoop to his level and commit murder in order to punish a murderer, to rape the law in order to kill a rapist.

But the mob spirit is not conducive to sound thinking. Men in that crowd blamed the governor for doing his duty; hurled imprecautions against the troops who were obeying orders, and talked irrationally about immediate vengeance. Some who counselled law and order placed their appeals on the specious ground that the guilty man was not in our jail and hinted that if he were, things would have been different.

Guilt or innocence is never the issue in such a case. The rape of the law is the cardinal point to be considered. The mob spirit says: Let the law be raped, just so our own passions are satisfied. The brute attacking those women said: "Let these innocent women be raped, just so my lust is satisfied." There is positively no difference in principle between the two. The mob spirit, like the rapist's lust, is passion run wild. Both flout the law. Both tend to overthrow organized society. If ours be a government of laws rather than of men, then the mob spirit must be curbed. Let justice be done by all means. But above all, let the majesty of the law be preserved and the temple of justice remain inviolate. We are glad that the unforgivable crime in Hinds county was not followed by an equally illegal deed of violence here.

Lynchings-1927
Discussions.

Negro Press, (Northern).

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Conspicuous Editorials

EDUCATIONAL LYNCHING
(Pittsburg Courier)

Great jubilation exists in America because the lynching rate is subsiding. We are rapidly approaching the time when no Negroes will be lynched except by due process of law. But what of the other form of mob violence from which the Negro suffers all over the South? What of the educational lynching? To deprive millions of young Negroes of proper instruction in schools is to effectively withold from them the means of acquiring the higher wants and the capacity for attaining and enjoying them. This is a form of lynching almost as effective from the ignorant white people's point of view as hanging a Negro from a limb or incinerating him in a bonfire. Physical lynching is an expression of hatred and fear; educational lynching is precisely the same thing. The results of both forms are to keep Negroes servile and easily exploitable, and enable the white upper caste to skim the cream off of life without fear of competition. The extent of this educational lynching in the South is strikingly illustrated in a recent release broadcast by Mr. W. A. Johnson, president of the National Association of Teachers in Colored Schools. While there are in the Southern states about three white people to each Negro, there are 5,140 public and private accredited high schools for whites and only 205 for colored! Think of it! For eight million people only 205 accredited four-year high schools! The wealthy states of Alabama and South Carolina, with a combined Negro population of almost two millions, haven't a single four-year accredited public or private high school for Negroes between them. Marvelous Florida of the salubricus climate, spectacular lynchings and submarine real estate, can boast of two public high schools for merely 141 such high schools. Louisiana, with 700,000 Negroes and 1,100,000 whites, has three public high schools for the former and a measly 340 such institutions for her lordly whites. Liberty-loving Mississippi, with more blacks than whites within her sacred borders, has the huge total of seven public accredited high schools for the pampered blacks while the lesser number of the superior race must struggle along with the handicap of only 290 such schools. Georgia, with an equal number of blacks and whites, furnishes three public schools for the descendants of her former slaves while reserving only 309 for the descendants of the former convicts who founded the state. And so the story goes in almost every state. The vast difference between the North and the South is shown in the case of West Virginia, which, while listed as a Southern state and having jim-crow schools, is in reality a part of the North. Here the 86,000 Negroes comprising less than seven percent of the total population of the state, are given eight per cent of the four-year accredited high schools, or a total of 15 to the 188 for the 1,377,235 whites.

COMBAT MOB LAW IN TENN.

Tennessee's Lynchless Record For 1927 Is Contributed to Interracial Body's Efforts

NASHVILLE, Tenn., July 27.—Speaking at the eight annual session of the Inter-Racial League, Secretary J. D. Burton, white, stated "there has been no blot on Tennessee's record this year and it is our purpose to so affect public opinion that we will rid the South of the practice of lynching."

Boost Education

Burton, whose district includes Tennessee, Alabama and Missouri, gave a review of inter-racial work in the South during the past 20 years. Tennessee has now 60 organized counties, he said, and $300,000 was spent last year on Negro school buildings.

Other work by the league in Tennessee was accounted by R. B. Clay state secretary.

Promotion of justice, education and confidence as the surest ways to bring about inter racial co-operation was stressed by commissioner of Institutions Lewis S. Pope commissioner of Education P. L. Hand and Apellate Justice John H. D. Witt.

Bishop Scott Appears

Negroes are provided for by Tennessee institutions just as white people with one exception Commissioner Pope pointed out. That exception is the lack of a home for feeble minded. He promised his utmost influence to see that provisions were made for such unfortunates.

Bishop I. B. Scott delivered a strong message, praising the virtue of inter-racial co-operation.

Churches to Pray for Abolition of Lynching

New York, Nov. 4.—Churches of 28 Protestant denominations are to pray on Lincoln's birthday for the abolition of lynching in the country. A committee of the federal council of Churches of Christ in America has authorized George E. Haynes, educator, to call on the churches to observe "Anti-Lynching day." He recently pleaded that Americans must Christianize themselves.

THAT TENNESSEE LYNCHING

Down in Tennessee on November 11, 1927, the white people celebrated Armistice Day by a lynching which took place in the courthouse yard.

Of course, the victim was a Negro, that goes without saying. Had not there been any Negroes in this particular community at that time, there would not have been a lynching, regardless of the charges or allegations of attacks on women.

The victim, though wrongfully and illegally put to death, is a thousand times better off than the poor, ignorant wretches who committed this foul deed. The soul of the victim, no doubt rests somewhere, while the members of the mob are here on this earth for a season to wrestle with the devil and, perchance, make their bed in hell.

Ignorance is a curse to any people and lynching as practiced in some sections of this country is but the child of a barbaric nature. Any intelligent people have a high sense of justice, and an appreciation of right and wrong; but ignorance discloses a beastly nature, like a horse, who would devour a rose as quickly as it would a thistle, and thinks it had committed no wrong. It was satisfying an appetite.

Two lynchings recently in Tennessee are a pretty good index as to the kind of people therein. The one about two months ago was committed in a church yard, while the latest or the last reported to the outside world, was committed in the court house yard. The former looked to us like a defiance of God, while the latter looks like a defiance of man's law and order.

These white peaple down in Tennessee need help and they need it badly. They need the spirit of the Christ and education. If the people of the state are spending $50,000 for missionaries to Africa or China, we would suggest that they look around at home. The people at home need help. They need a lift out of the mire of ignorance and superstition. Instead of spending $10,000 on what they call defending the Bible, that amount should be increased ten times and put into teaching the Bible to its people from the governor down.

The thing which makes one man hate another without cause is ignorance. If a man has just common sense, he knows that every other man has the same right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness as he. When this is denied because of superior brute force, then it is quite evident that education of the masses is greatly needed.

COUNCIL OF CHURCHES FIGHTS LYNCHING

NEW YORK.—A summons to church people to penitence and prayer to free our nation from the evils of lynching and mob violence was issued today by the Federal Council of Churches through its commission of which George E. Haynes is chairman.

"Lynching is a crime which leaves its stain upon us all," the call declares. "Any community that flouts the dignity of the law and courts of justice opens the way to the violent rule of the mob throughout the nation. It assaults the very ideals upon which our civilization is dependent. A nation's penitence and prayer must be summoned both to check the lynching evil and to build up deeper respect for the process of justice and new sympathetic understanding among all the people. In the attitude of penitence and the atmosphere of prayer the best things come forth."

The date chosen for this observance is February 12, known as Race Relations Sunday.

"In the 45 years ending with 1926, American mobs lynched 4,551 persons, about three-fourths of whom were Negroes, about ninety-one of whom were women. Only four states, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont—have never had a recorded lynching. In 1922 there were 57 victims of lynching mobs in the United States; in 1923 there were 33; in 1924 and 1925 there were 16 each year; in 1926 there were 30; and in 1927 to November 15 there were 14 victims, two of them burned at the stake," stated Dr. Haynes.

"Actual or attempted assault upon women, which many people think the sole cause of lynchings, was alleged in less than one-fourth of the cases and proven in the courts in none," he said.

DARKEST INDIA—WHITEST AMERICA

For hundreds of years women of India have voluntarily thrown themselves into the funeral pyres of their husbands. England, in the name of civilization, has put an end to this barbaric tradition, while—

In America the practice of burning humans at stakes still flourishes under the very eyes and with the sanction of this civilized government.

THE NEGLECTED TRUTH

A letter received in the office of the Defender last week brings out [illegible] that led to the lynching of Leonard Woods in Kentucky a few weeks ago. Here are [illegible] the letter calls "the facts":

"Sunday, Nov. 27, two Colored women (names given in letter but omitted by us for obvious reasons) started on an automobile ride with Hershel Deaton and another white man. The two women and the white men were having illicit relations. Woods was also on friendly terms with one of the women. Woods jumped on the running board of Deaton's car and attempted to make the Colored woman get out. Deaton got out and hit and kicked Woods; then Woods shot and killed Deaton. Woods was lynched two days later," etc.

And again the neglected truth comes to light. At the time of the arrest, news was sent abroad that the white man had been shot because he refused to give Woods and the two women a ride in his car. This, in itself, sounded silly enough, but our white people of Kentucky, if they knew the actual facts, chose not to tell the truth. And newspapers throughout the country heralded what they must have known was a misstatement of facts.

But what can one expect of white people of Kentucky? What can one even expect of his own women in Kentucky who must pay the price of having been born and of remaining in that pagan state? We give out these facts for what they may be worth to the people of America.

Lynchings- 1927
Discussion.

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THE SOUTH IS AWAKENING

Just when it seems that the cloud which hovers over the Negro is at its blackest aspect, comes a glint of the silver lining beneath. The Senate resolution condemning the Aiken lynching was passed in the House of the South Carolina Legislature at Columbia, S. C., on February 4, without debate and without a record vote.

When introduced in the Senate, there was a warm debate, but it was passed eventually, after being amended to specify that the lynching of the Lowmans took place in the county, and not in the city of Aiken. The resolution further commends Gov. Richards for his avowed intention to apprehend the lynchers.

At the same time, Georgia sentences to life imprisonment a man who was implicated in the lynching of Dave Wright last August. Gaines Lastinger is the twelfth man to be punished with a prison sentence as the result of the lynching.

Two such instances as these, from the hot bed of lynching, are straws showing that the wind of disapproval of lawlessness is rising in the South. The tremendous forces set in motion by the N. A. A. C. P., the New York World and the tide of public disapproval in the North are finding their expression in repudiation of the crime. It is heartening to the whole race. It means that never again can we feel the crushing discouragement that comes from a feeling that the South is supine in its acceptance of the reign of cruelty against the Negro. The past twelve years have meant much in the history of the country. They have seen the crystallization of public sentiment against lynching, South as well as North. They have witnessed a new evaluation on the life of a black man, and the power of the Negro to protest against his own wrongs. The Legislature of South Carolina and the judiciary of Georgia are pointing the way to the ultimate adoption of a Federal anti-lynching law which will protect these very same bodies, or all individuals who believe in the right.

It is indeed a gleam of light in the darkness.

IS LYNCHING A SPORT?

Whether lynching is an industry or a sport is a moot question. Some students of the custom might hold that it can be classified under both heads. This question again comes to the front with the sudden decision of the South Carolina authorities to enforce the century old "blue laws" of that state. It seems that the authorities down there have suddenly become greatly concerned over the fact that some of the good people of the Old South State are passing the Sabbath on golf links, in automobiles and on tennis courts instead of remaining at home or going to church. So the order recently went forth to "tighten up" and as a consequence all filling stations, garages, soda fountains, cigar stores and restaurants have been kept closed for the past two or three Sundays.

In Aiken, that delightful resort town where Southern chivalry recently attained its high water mark with the lynching of three people in one day, the alert officials arrested several people for playing golf on the Sabbath. Reports from all parts of the state declare that the law is being vigorously enforced and obeyed.

Nothing could possibly be more heartening than the news that South Carolina has suddenly decided to enforce and obey the laws, if only for one day a week. Now, if the solons of the Old South State will only amend the ancient statutes to the extent of classing lynching either as an industry or as a sport, the black citizens can breathe easily on the Sabbath even though the other six days of the week be open season.

An Aiken Defender

EXCEPT FOR THE INITIALS "R. H." signed to a letter to the editor of the New York Herald Tribune, published Sunday, we do not know the identity of the person who has rushed to the defense of Aiken, South Carolina, in its most recent lynching orgy, during which two men and a woman were done to death. We quote from the letter, as follows:

The writer recently spent several weeks in Aiken, and, although his eyes are in excellent condition, did not observe a single instance of racial hostility. In the case of minor offenders brought up at the police court, Negroes are treated with more leniency than whites. The colored law-breakers frequently elect to work out their very reasonable sentences on the roads, becoming members of the so-called "chain gang," a term which in the public mind is a synonym for cruel hardship and abuse. The Negroes of the chain gang, however, obviously find life pleasant enough. They are not compelled to work very hard. A happy-go-lucky crew, they are content so long as they have food and shelter. The Southern sun shines just as brightly on road menders as on a millionaire rolling along in a Rolls-Royce. Moreover, Negro members of the gang are allowed to go to their homes at night. The white officials know that they will be on hand in the morning, and very sensibly take the view that there is no necessity for keeping them cooped up in jail over night.

Surely it stands to reason that this privilege would not be granted unless the general attitude of whites toward Negroes was a kindly one. Instead of being treated as dangerous criminals, colored persons who commit small breaches of the law are regarded as naughty but lovable children, for Southerners really like Negroes and understand them. Colored servants on plantations in South Carolina still show a marked feudal dependency and feudal loyalty. In return they are allowed all sorts of little privileges.

The contention that Negro prisoners are well treated in South Carolina is further borne out by this paragraph, which appeared in a Charleston newspaper on December 25 last: "County Sheriff Joseph M. Poulnot has arranged plenty of smoking tobacco for the prisoners in the county jail. From a local cigar company he has purchased 100 packages of cigarettes and twenty-five tons of pipe tobacco. The prisoners will get these tomorrow with the Sheriff's compliments." The great majority of prisoners referred to are Negroes.

Inter-Racial Commission Condemns Aiken Affair

ATLANTA, Ga., Feb. 10.—The Executive Committee of the Commission on Inter-racial Co-operation, in called session at the Henry Grady Hotel recently, adopted resolutions strongly commending the recent statement of Governor John G. Richards, of South Carolina, relative to the Aiken lynching, and calling upon the people of South Carolina to support the Governor in his expressed determination to bring the perpetrators to justice if within his power.

The resolutions call attention also to the lynching record for 1926 and to the fact that in only one of the thirty cases reported have there been any convictions, and appeal to the American people to put an end to these conditions.

LYNCHING statistics are now being compiled to show that the 18th amendment is responsible for the reduction in lynchings, if it can be said that there is a reduction. Prohibition, they say, has brought the number down from 83 in 1919 to the reported figure of 31 in 1926. And this, of course, is given as an argument for prohibition.

What you, and the rest of America want to know is what is prohibition? Do advocates of that law mean to say that the South, where lynching is most prevalent, is actually dry? Are they actually trying to prove by figures that those who engage in America's favorite pastime, and who by implication, are heaviest drinkers, are now without their liquid refreshments?

You can easly disprove that argument. Ask any of our statisticians, the Anti-Saloon league included, to make a trip through the mountains and valleys of Dixie, and ascertain for themselves if it is not true that moonshine is just as easy to get as it was before the amendment was passed. The only difference now being that traffickers in booze will kill a "revenooer" quicker now than they did ten years ago, and that they demand a higher price for their concoctions than they could get before the anti-everythingers became so active.

Not a great deal of figuring is necessary for you to see that this is just another hoax to wheedle more money out of the government on the pretext that by keeping liquor from the bad boys down South the effect will be, indirectly, to stop lynchings. You see which way the wind is blowing: you now wonder who is being made the goat.

There can be no real arguments against the 18th amendment, per se. You only want to see the mask pulled from the faces of those who go about the country prating of what prohibition has done to the lynch business. If lynchings have decreased at all, it is because there are a few more men and women in the country today who are beginning to feel ashamed of themselves and their race. It is because more pressure is being brought by the North to bear upon conditions that give rise to lynchings, peonage, bastardy and concubinage. It certainly is not due to any cessation of liquor drinking among those who do drink, or to any reformed sense of justice converting lynchers. They are not made that way.

Virginia Pilot Recounts Toll Of Mobs Errors

John Wilson, the colored man who was found guilty of the murder of Mrs. Ella S. Heath, of Olive Branch, and sentenced to die in the electric chair, appears after all to have been innocent. He is still in the penitentiary, and still, theoretically, in the shadow of death, but if the recommendation made by Commonwealth's Attorney Carney to the Governor is complied with he will soon be a free man.

The facts are as follows:

Mrs. Ella S. Heath was murdered on August 21, 1926.

On August 24 the court convened a special grand jury.

On September 7, the grand jury indicted John Wilson and Paul Green, alias Rat, jointly, and John Wilson separately.

On the same day, Green being then at large, Wilson was convicted and sentenced to die on October 22.

On November 26, Green was tried and found guilty of the crime and sentenced to the penitentiary for life. Meantime two reprieves had stayed the execution of Wilson.

The principal witness against Wilson having admitted that she lied, and Green having been convicted of the crime on evidence precluding Wilson's implication in it, the Commonwealth's Attorney, after "lengthy, careful and prayerful consideration of the facts in the case," has reached the conclusion that Wilson is not guilty and that he should be at once released from the penitentiary. On the face of the facts as they stand determined of justice, the conviction of Wilson was a mistake. Only the grace of God has prevented it from being a fatal mistake.

Here is a sobering lesson with a special moral for Southern justice. The murder of the aged white woman was a brutal one. Public sentiment was aroused to such an extent that when suspicion fell on Wilson, the judge of the Circuit Court was alarmed for his safety and ordered him transferred to the Norfolk city jail. What might have happened had the court not acted promptly to remove this man to a place of safety and had the friends and neighbors of the dead woman yielded to the passions of the moment, is not pleasant to contemplate. On a smaller showing of guilt many a colored folk has been lynched. Had a mob taken the case in hand it would have put to death an innocent man.

There is a lesson in this case for all those who are disposed to temporize with lynching. Let these ask themselves how many scores of innocent John Wilsons have been done to death by lynchers in the past twenty-five years? The answer, if there were any way of ascertaining it with exactness, would be appalling. There is another lesson in this case for judges and juries confronted with the duty of making life and death judgments in cases concerning which there is great public excitement. The more one considers the case of John Wilson, the more one must realize how essential it is to justice, to elementary decency, to stamp out lynching as one would stamp out a poisonous snake.

LYNCHERS ARE COWARDS; JUST ONE GOOD RIFLEMAN NEEDED, SAYS EX-SHERIFF

(From The Louisville Leader-

Washington, D. C., March 24th—The New York Times for March 10th publishes an interview with an old-time southern sheriff in which he declared that lynchers are cowardly. "Just give me one sure-shot rifleman—I would not want but one"—the ex-sheriff is reported as saying, "and I will stand off from a jail an army of 500 that ever was mustered to do an unfortunate to death without due process of law. I have seen the thing work out time and time again. The realization of guilt on the part of the mob undermines and saps their courage, if they had any to start with.

"Our modern lynching mobs," continued the ex-sheriff, "operate in defiance of the law; they flout all the safeguards of courts, sheriffs and police. They are not representative citizens, and they trample by these means a civilized community set up for itself. They know all this full well, however, buoyed up by liquor they may be on the occassion of the lynching bee. Half or three-quarters drunk as is the case with most lynching mobs, they are never too befuddled not to understand just how far to go in opposition to a determined and fearless sheriff. Make no mistake, they will save their own precious hides.

Very raely did you ever hear of a member of a lynching party receiving injuries."

It is a sad truth that sheriffs of the type of the narrator are so conspicuous by their absence in the

FORM ANTI-LYNCHING SOCIETY IN SOUTH

Birmingham Ala., May 20.—The National Anti-Lynching association, a new national organization established to combat the increase of lynchings in the South, recently opened its national headquarters in this city. The association, whose creed is to make America free from lynching and to work for the passage of a federal anti-lynching law, purposes to gather and report data on the crime of lynching and to work up nation-wide agitation for the passage of federal laws that will help to abolish the crime of lynching. Edward A. Fisher, Jr., national secretary of the association, stated the merits of the bill introduced in congress by Hon. L. C. Eyer of Missouri, which has been indorsed, and a national campaign will be waged to secure the passage of the measure.

Secretary Fisher in outlining the work of the organization stated that while lynching may be blotted out, it cannot be done by inactiveness and indifference to prevailing conditions. Agitation must be kept up vigorously. The association is open to members of both races who are interested in law and order and the abolishment of the rope and torch rule of the South.

TAKE ACTION AS MOB THREATENS LYNCHING

JACKSON, Miss, June 15 —Henry Graves Post, American Legion, placed itself firmly on record as favoring law and order and permitting the law to take its course in the case of Walter Burley. The post also pledged its co-operation with the officers of the law to see that the law is carried out. This action of the post will have splendid moral effect and it is suggested that if the civic clubs and women clubs will take similar action and appoint committees to organize a popular sentiment in favor of law and order, there may be hope of escaping the stigma of mob violence in this pending crisis.

LYNCH IN MISS. AND ARK.

FLEMING KILLED PLANTER WHO TRIED TO FORCE HIM TO THE LEVEE—JONES MURDERED BECAUSE JEALOUS OF HIS WEALTH—BOTH IN JUNE

Helena, Ark., June 1927:—Owen Fleming was shot to death by a posse of two hundred whites near here early Wednesday morning. Fleming was charged with killing a white man named Roy Walters and farm overseer.

According to reports the white man had sent for Fleming to help move refugees back to their farms and Fleming sent word to him that he was sick. Angered by the message sent him, Walters went to Fleming's home and attempted to force him to come with him. Fleming fearing that he would be killed, shot Walters, killing him instantly. Following the report of the killing, a posse formed and went in search of Fleming and when they surrounded him near his home they riddled his body with bullets.

In Mississippi

Benton, Miss., June 15th, 1927.—The lynching of William Jones, prosperous race farmer, near his little own has caused many Colored people to leave Yazoo County, during the past two or three weeks. Jones was mobbed at his farm home about 2 miles South of Benton, by white men of Benton. It is said, Jones commented in manly terms on the unfairness of a cour procedure wherein his son was convicted as a member of a group of boys tried for stealing automobile parts.

The remarks made by Jones were heard by a few poor whites, who were jealous and envious of his prosperity.

A mob gathered at Benton visited his home, rushed the house carried Jones away hung him to a tree and riddled his body with bullets. Considerable damage was done to his property.

THE AIKEN LYNCHING

[Spartanburg Journal]

Months have passed since the three Lowmans were lynched and South Carolina law and justice outraged, and time keeps flying, but there has not been since the craven cowardly band who perpetrated this infamy are immune to constituted authority. And yet there is the matter of conscience. Wherever they go, however untrammeled and unhampered so far as officers and law are concerned, the inner man abides all the time, and not one of them will ever enjoy normal calm or peace. "Blood will have blood," as the line in "Macbeth" goes, and whether or not retributive justice hales any one of that Aiken mob into the open and into the courts and deals out punishment commensurate with the crime, the memory of their foul deeds will constantly abide as long as there is life in their bodies.

Lynchings-1927
Discussions.

Negro Press, (Northern).

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MAKING A SHOW OF THEMSELVES.

One of the cleverest bits of political satire presented on the Broadway stage, during the season just ended, was the character of Fabius Maximus, a Roman senator in the play entitled "The Road to Rome." The presentation of this fatuous statesman in ancient costume and mouthing modern platitudes at appropriate intervals, was but a thinly veiled caricature of the political heroes of the present age. The state of boredom consequent upon daily contact with such unctuous self-satisfaction was accentuated by the escapade of his Grecian wife in seeking the society of Hannibal, the invading Carthagenian general. The prevalence of this type of political mediocrity among our modern rulers and lawmakers is revealed when they make a show of themselves.

One of the latest examples of this species of self-revelation of moral and intellectual deficiencies was furnished by a former governor of Arkansas, George W. Hays, who has an article in Scribner's Magazine for June on "The Necessity for Capital Punishment." Mr. Hays contributes but little new to the discussion of this subject beyond recording his personal difficulties in dealing with appeals for pardons in cases where the death penalty had been imposed. He commuted one fourth of the death sentences during his terms as governor and registered the belief theoretically, that capital punishment might well be abolished, "but actually to do away with it in our present stage of development would be unwise and dangerous. . . . Mob violence would be the result." The ex-Governor's fatuity is most clearly revealed, when he drags in the Negro question to justify the retention of capital punishment and to apologize half-heartedly for lynching and mob law. We quote him on this point:

> One of the South's most serious problems is the Negro question. The legal system is exactly the same for both white and black, although the latter race is still quite primitive, and in general culture and advancement in a childish stage of progress.
>
> If the death penalty were to be removed from our statute books, the tendency to commit deeds of violence would be heightened owing to this Negro problem. The greater number of the race do not maintain the same ideals as the whites. They have their own particular way of looking at life.
>
> The sometimes unexplainable fiendish crimes of low-grade types of Negroes arouse uncontrollable excitement on the part of the white population which is followed by disgraceful burnings and lynchings. Due process of law and orderly carrying out of the calm administration of justice are eliminated. I trust that my readers do not get the false impression that the South is a land of lawlessness and disregard of established codes of justice.

And then this former governor, with tongue in check, trusts that his readers "do not get the false impression that the South is a land of lawlessness and disregard of established codes of justice." He euphemistically terms lynchings "extra-legal punishments by mobs," and adds that "these crude deeds of retribution outside the law take place largely in smaller communities of the agricultural character." Mr. Hays of course insists that he is by no means condoning these mob tactics but deplores them greatly, while noting with satisfaction their obliteration. The recent burning of the body of a Negro in the public streets of Little Rock by a mob of lynchers showed that this obliteration is far from being an accomplished fact. It also negatives Mr. Hays' comforting conclusion that "burnings by fire and oil, the crucifixions and similar cruel torments are gone." Ex-Governor Hays endeavors to pose as a humanitarian in his aspirations for a day when capital punishment can safely be dispensed with, but his apologetic attitude toward lynching is more suggestive of humbug.

Another Southern governor who has revealed the hollowness of his pretensions as a defender of the Bible, is John G. Richards of South Carolina. While urging the enforcement of the law against Sunday golf and ousting teachers who believe in evolution from the schools, he dropped all efforts to punish the Aiken assassins who killed three members of the Lowman family. The lack of moral fibre and intellectual capacity among the men who run the government of these United States was never more painfully apparent than in the self-revelations exposed in their mental outgivings, whether by public speech and document, magazine articles or official actions and omissions.

Fabius Maximus, as senator and dictator of Rome, although lacking the initiative and force to retain the affections of an inconstant wife, was in his public capacity of heroic mould compared to the current crop of our American rulers. And yet the issues of life and death, affecting millions of people, are entrusted to men of the moral and mental calibre of these two Southern governors, who have made a holy show of themselves.

AN UNJUDICIAL JUDGE.

A judge presiding in a courtroom where justice is supposedly dealt out with an impartial hand, ordinarily preserves some degree of judicial reserve and decorum. Not so in Mississippi, in the court where Judge Walter White of Harrison county presides. As told in a special despatch to the New York World from New Orleans, Judge White in sentencing two Negroes to the penitentiary, bitterly assailed their race, despite the fact that there have been three lynchings in his State in two months and another was impending. Judge White was quoted as follows:

> "The Negroes of this State go looking for trouble. They carry arms, the men revolvers, the women razors. When one commits a crime the whole Negro community protects him. On the contrary, when a white man commits a crime his neighbors deliver him to the law."

Of course this learned judge did not stop to consider that by his unjudicial utterances he was increasing the racial friction and inciting his white fellow citizens to further acts of lynching and mob violence. A former justice of the United States Supreme Court once defined lynching as murder. And even in the legal lexicon of the Mississippi judiciary murder is a crime.

An interesting comment on the news despatches from Mississippi anent the floods and lynching was found in an editorial in the Manchester, Conn., Evening Herald. Contrasting a story of the quiet heroism of the Negroes all over the vast submerged areas with the fiendish cruelty of a Mississippi mob in burning at the stake a Negro accused of murder, the editor of the Herald said:

> Is it any wonder that there are thousands of people in the North who not only gravely question which race—the black or the white—is proving itself the superior race in the South, but who are almost at the point where they will conclude that the question is a question no longer.
>
> Never yet, among all the crimes with which the Southern blacks are accused, have they ever been charged with burning a human being alive.

Things must be coming to a pretty pass, when the white editor of a Connecticut daily is driven by the force of contrast to such a conclusion as indicated above. But the conduct of such judges as Walter White can only serve to justify and multiply such conclusions on the part of unprejudiced observers. Judge White may overrule the conclusion as irrelevant and emanating from a "damyankee", as he would doubtless phrase it, but on an appeal to the court of public opinion, it might be sustained.

IN THE SAME OLD WAY

They burned two men at the stake in Louisville, Miss., last week, and shot another to death in Tennessee. In both instances the affairs were carried out in orderly fashion, and white supremacy has been maintained by murdering the law.

It is the same old story. We wish we could get away from it, but we can't. We would like to be able to discuss some other phase of our social structure in these United States. There are many subjects so much more informative, and certainly more easily discussed. But we must talk about the barbarity of our white brothers and sisters in America's Southland.

We must tell again of an argument between a white man and a man of our Race We can relate, without having attended this particular lynching, just how the white man resenting the fact that "the nigger talked back" to him, struck the other with murderous intent. He knew that he could kill with impunity—knew that the law always exonerates a white man for his promiscuous murders in the South. At this point we must deviate from the usual story. The man assaulted remembered for once that he was a man and acted accordingly. The result was that the white man suddenly found himself dying.

Then the story becomes ordinary again. White guardians of the peace, with their trusty bloodhounds, take the trail. They capture the frightened, unarmed fugitive with his brother. They started with him for "safe-keeping," letting it be known where they headed and the route they are taking. The mob, encouraged by the attitude of the Mississippi law and the ever growing desire to enjoy a real old-fashioned burning, overtakes the officrs and demands the prisoners. According to custom, the sheriffs fire a few shots into the air to frighten a thousand white men. Knowing that bullets sent upwards are harmless, the mob continues to demand the prisoners. Oh, there is no new incident introduced in the procedure at all. It is carried out exactly according to form. Given the two hapless, helpless men, the real celebration starts and continues until the last dying embers tell that there is no more flesh left on the charred bones.

The affair in Tennessee was also along accepted lines and formulas for shooting. There was nothing new about it. Investigations following both lynchings have resulted as these investigations always do. No one is held—no one is responsible.

We don't want to tell of these things. It would interest us far more to tell of some act on the part of President Coolidge that would prove him interested in all those he represents. We would rather tell of how Senator Pat Harrison defended an anti-lynching measure in the upper house, and how he condemned the Red Cross for its unfairness to some of his constituents in Mississippi in the flood disaster. We would rather tell of a speech by Cole Blease in which he urged South Carolina to enforce its law against lynchings. We would like to tell of how the chief of police of Little Rock was removed from office for failure to perform his duty when Carter was burned there on Ninth St. and Broadway in front of the Mosaic temple and Bethel A. M. E. church. There are many things we would like to tell, but we cannot. We must tell again of another lynching in Tennessee and two more in Mississippi. We must tell again that no one will be punished for them. And while we are telling these things, we must remember that we still have troops in Nicaraugua and China, and that Mr. Coolidge is catching trout with worms in the Black Hills of South Dakota. The same old story, told in the same old way. America, the land of the free and the home of the brave!

MISSISSIPPI'S BARBARIANS AT WORK

Mississippi, which has the questionable distinction of being the meanest state in the country with respect to its treatment of colored people, is living up to its reputation. On Monday of this week two colored men charged with having killed a white man, and who were in the custody of the law awaiting trial, were taken from the sheriff and burned near a telegraph pale. A mob of 1,000 persons joined in this unruly and barbarous proceeding. We dare say that the children of the adjoining communities were called out to see how the barbarians performed their brutal work. Of course nothing will be done to the criminal mob that disregarded the laws of God and man.

Nothing will ever be done to stop this blot on the name of the country until the colored people in Mississippi will demand an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.

This burning of two helpless prisoners is not a blot on Mississippi's fair name because it has no fair name. The white people of Mississippi who condone this crime are a gang of lawless brutes devoid of honor and shame.

The need of an anti-lynching law is obvious each time such crimes are committed.

SAVAGERY IN MISSISSIPPI

If mob savagery has ever abated in Mississippi, it has broken out afresh again in the horrible burning to death by a mob of 1000 men of two brothers, Jim and Mark Fox.

These men, Negroes, were accused, not convicted, of shooting to death Clarence Nichols, a saw mill superintendent under whom they worked. Press reports say that there had been an "altercation" between the white man and the Negroes. People who live in the South or have knowledge of Southern conditions in relation to Negroes and whites know fully and well what an "altercation" between a white man or white men and Negroes means. Ninety-nine and nine-tenths times out of a hundred it means that the white man either shoots or brutally clubs, beats, kicks or cuffs the Negro with whom he "altercates."

Frequently it happens that attempts to shoot or beat Negroes are resented and resisted by them and the white aggressor killed. And it is then that, under the operation of the unwritten law of the South that the life of a white man is too precious, too sacred to be taken by a Negro even in defense of his own life or in defense of his family or property, in the most uncivilized communities in Southern States Negroes are savagely lynched, and in communities where they are not lynched they are usually put to death through the medium of the courts.

The frequent lynching of Negroes in some parts of the South is the reflection of the sentiments of the white people in the communities where it prevails toward the Negro group. In those communities white men assume that they are a law unto themselves in their relations and dealings with Negroes. In all the courts of the South from Virginia to Texas the judges, juries, court officials are all white. In the great majority of the counties of those States seldom, if ever, has a jury convicted a white man for lawless violence against or for the murder of a Negro however wanton, brutal, deliberate and premeditated it may have been, and seldom if ever has a Negro been acquitted in those counties for the killing or for doing bodily injury to a white man however justifiable the killing or the injury may have been.

Where such flagrant miscarriages of justice habitually occur, where juries are accustomed to render their verdicts according to the race of the prisoner on trial regardless of the law and the evidence in the case at bar, it is easy to form a lynching mob made up of men who would as jurymen condemn an innocent Negro to death.

The Mississippi savagery should therefore occasion no amazement or shock. It is one of the expected results of the training the people of the community in which it occurred have given themselves in refusing to consider the Negro as entitled to justice and the equal protection of the law.

And there will always be lynching mobs in communities or counties where the sentiment prevails that Negroes are not within the pale of the law's protection just as are other citizens.

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Discussions

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2440

THIS STORY goes back to last March when, following the report that two white girls out in Coffeyville, Kansas, had been raped, a mob formed and marched on the Negro section of that city in search of the alleged culprits, whom one of the girls had stated were colored men. Needless to say the mob attacked scores of innocent Negro men and women, drove them from their homes, and did not cease its depredations until state troops were called out and martial law proclaimed.

IT NOW DEVELOPS that the girls were not attacked by colored men, but by white men. Two arrests have been made, one being that of a married white man, the father of four children, and the other one of the girls supposed to have been raped. The latter is being held as an accessory before the fact.

IF LYNCHING is an effective cure for crimes of this nature, and now that the authorities have a real suspect under arrest, why is he not taken out and lynched? And since mobs do not spare colored women accused of lesser crimes, why not lynch the girl implicated in the crime? They are white. Lynch law in this country was not designed for them, but for colored people; not as a deterrent to crime of any kind, but to humiliate a struggling race and hold it up to scorn.

RACE SUPREMACY IN LYNCHING.

The recent burning of the lifeless body of a Negro by a mob of whites, in the center of the Negro section of Little Rock, has elicited some strong expressions of condemnation from the press of both races all over the country. Peculiar interest attaches to the views expressed by the newspapers of Little Rock, the capital of Arkansas, which was the scene of this barbarous exhibition. The Arkansas Survey, a Negro weekly, headed its editorial review of the tragedy as follows: "Law and Decency Lie Prostrate at the Hands of the Mob in Little Rock."

This uncompromising summary of the situation was followed by an account of the burning at a funeral pyre, "erected at the most outstanding point of Negro civic, commercial and religious activity." It was characterized as "the effort of an unreasoning mob to terrify, humiliate a race of people who had been guilty of no crime but that they were the unfortunate members of a race of which one of its numbers had committed a most provoking crime." The crime itself was committed by a demented Negro outside of the city and the lynching itself did not take place in the city. The Survey asked:

What did it mean?—the question has been asked by hundreds,—it meant to humiliate and terrorize hundreds of peaceable, industrious, God-fearing citizens who were guilty of no crime but that of being members of the race to which the DEMENTED man belonged. At the intersection of Ninth and Broadway stand big and beautiful Bethel A. M. E. church and the imposing edifices of the National and State buildings of the Mosaic Templars of America which buildings were the silent witnesses of this most flagrant outrage on a defenseless people. Here in these same buildings, monuments to the pride of the Negro in his own achievements; bonds of faith in the encouraging words fallen from the lips of white friends, where mutual cooperation had been pledged in all things looking to a bigger and a greater commonwealth; here where loyal colored men and women had gathered and when the stalking form of German Imperialism cast its menacing shadow over the Democracy of the world—the financial strength of the race in Little Rock and its manhood were freely offered; when the Mosaic Templars of America made the greatest single contribution of money by any organization, that Democracy should not perish from the face of the earth. In this same building; these same people, trapped like so many rats in a cage, had to sit by and see roasted the flesh of a human being and smell the odor of his slowly consuming carcass and see the steps of their beloved church converted into a grand stand and orator's rostrum of those who would behold the carnage and harangue the crowd.

The white papers said that during this orgy that the police force were safely concentrated at the city hall and that four members of the National Guard were sent down to protect them. We have had faith in Little Rock's dominant citizenship; we have had faith in the guardians of the peace of the city; we did not believe that such a thing could happen; it was a delusion, it did happen. But there is still a ray of light if recent action of the outstanding citizens be carried to the end. We would be just as wrong in believing that the action of the rabble who formed the mob and burnt the crazy Negro was representative of the attitude of the best whites as they would be to hold us responsible for the acts of a degenerate Negro. We deplore crime when committed by one of our race; but the individual and not the whole race should be held responsible. The right thinking white citizen; the law abiding white man, has been lulled into the belief that all of his race are like him; this is the mistake; his indifference makes possible such blots as have been placed against the good name of the city. It is too late to take out insurance after the house has been burned but better late than never is a pretty good adage to be applied in this present case; we believed this spells the death knell of the mob inclined.

We must not become panic stricken or lose our grip; since our advent on these shores we have faced every untoward condition that mortal man can face. We have stood the horrors of the slaveship; we have survived hundreds of years of servile slavery; we went through the horrors of the reconstruction period; we have lived through laws of proscription and unjust discrimination and through it all we have increased in stature and grown in favor both with God and man and this is the spirit we still breathe.

Turning from this unflinching facing of a horrible situation, let us see how the white newspapers met the responsibility devolving on them as exponents of modern civilization. The Arkansas Democrat bluntly told the truth by saying: "The law has been put to the supreme test in Little Rock and found wanting. Those with whom we trust the safety of our firesides have been called in an hour of desperate need only to be found pitifully conspicuous by their absence." After this scathing denunciation of official inactivity, the Democrat demanded an immediate investigation, with the reminder that "the grand jury has the power to indict. The Governor and the Circuit court have the power to remove. Those powers should be used impartially, unsparingly and immediately."

The Arkansas Gazette also admitted that the impotence of city and county peace officers left mob free to work its will while Little Rock was delivered over to anarchy. It declared unreservedly that the city and county must have in places of authority men who are fearless and determind, who can always defend the community against excess and lawlessness and uphold peace and order.

The Little Rock Daily News was more apologetic toward the mob in its attitude claiming that the crimes committed constituted "two distinct blows at white supremacy," and that the mob members "chose that weapon that man has ever commanded in defense of his home, or his God-given position—death to the invader." After this virtual justification of mob murder, the News paid lip service to law and order by protesting that such demonstrations threaten the courts and all that they guard. With the belated and astonishing admission, that "we have seen our friends and neighbors become brutes again for one night," the News demanded the right to live as man has learned to live, "even though it be necessary to call out the entire armed forces of the United States." This confusion of argument goes to show that the human holocaust must have sickened even such a staunch upholder of white supremacy as this Little Rock editor. A racial supremacy that must be maintained by such disgusting and barbarous methods as those tolerated at Little Rock is a reproach to the State and the Nation.

The Negro weekly and the three white dailies of Little Rock have shed a measure of illumination upon the underlying causes of such atrocities as the burning of human beings because they are black.

It remains to be seen whether the corrective measures advocated by the two more enlightened white editors are adopted. Despite the heroic spirit of the utterances in the Negro weekly, we are of the opinion that migration from Arkansas will feel a new impetus. It is significant that the associate editor of the Survey, who wrote the article concerning the lynching was forced to flee the city to escape a mob which threatened his life.

SOUTH IS AROUSED BY SPEECH

Mississippi Judge Bitterly Assails Negroes; Lauds Qualities of Whites.

2 BURNED; NO ONE PAYS

1,000 Citizens of "Blue Blood" Agree Not to Lynch Prisoner

(Special to The Pittsburgh Courier.)
(By Arrangement With the New York World.)

NEW ORLEANS, June 23. —Relations between the races in Mississippi have reached a critical point. There have been three lynchings in two months, another impends, and Judge Walter White of Harrison County has severely assailed the Negro race while extolling the good qualities of the Caucasian inhabitants of the state.

Judge White is the magistrate who attempted last year to prevent the reporting of proceedings in his court. He threatened to jail for contempt any reporter who published an account of the trial of a white man of the swamps for killing two game wardens. All the newspapers defied him and Judge White did nothing.

In sentencing two Negroes to the penitentiary for killing a white man who had stopped them on the road, struck and cursed them for having splashed mud on him as they drove by in an automobile, Judge White said:

"The Negroes of this State go looking for trouble. They carry arms, the men revolvers, the women razors. When one commits a crime the whole Negro community protects them. On the contrary, when a white man commits a crime his neighbors deliver him to the law."

Following closely on the lynching of two Negroes at Louisville, Miss., by burning at the stake and the impending lynching of another at Jackson, this speech has stirred the Negroes in many sections of the State deeply.

At Jackson 1,000 of the "best" citizens have agreed "not to lynch Will Coleman just now," and have signed an agreement to refrain from the outrage until a confession regarding his accomplices can be forced from the Negro.

No action is being taken to bring to trial the persons who burned the Negroes.

N. Y. Conference Scores Lynching

Son's Illness Detains Bishop Caldwell — Bishop Martin Presides

The 106th annual session of the New York conference of the A. M. E. Zion Church, which was held at the Rush Memorial A. M. E. Zion Church, of which the Rev. Dr. G. Melville Carver is pastor, June 7 to 12, brought together the leading churchmen of the connection. Bishop J. W. Martin of California presided at the conference. Bishop J. C. Caldwell of Philadelphia, in whose diocese the conference is located, was detained at his home on account of the illness of his son, who died while the conference was in session.

The conference, before it adjourned, scored lynching and peonage in the South, urged a more rigid enforcement of the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments, and deplored the treatment of Negroes in the flood area. The conference endorsed Prohibition and advocated a broader education and training for the ministry. The Rev. S. M. Dudley, one of the general officers of the church, was endorsed for United States Minister to Liberia, and the work of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters was highly commended and approved.

An address of welcome on behalf of the Rush Church was made by Mrs. Mary Brundage. The response to the address of welcome was made by the Rev. J. W. Brown, pastor of the Mother Zion A. M. E. Church.

An address on education was made by Prof. W. J. Trent, president of Livingstone College, at Salisbury, N. C.

Dr. J. E. Mason, financial secretary of Livingstone College, spoke in the interest of the endowment drive.

No important changes were made of pastors in the conference.

RACE RELATIONS IN MISSISSIPPI REACH CRISIS

Lynchings Increase, Notorious Judge Spurs Lawlessness, Negroes Held in Servitude in Flood Area by Order of the Authorities

NEW ORLEANS, June 16. — Relations between the races in Mississippi have reached a critical point. There have been three lynchings in two months, another impends, and Judge Walter White of Harrison County has severely assailed the Negro race while extolling the good qualities of the Caucasian inhabitants of the state.

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Following closely on the lynching of two Negroes at Louisville, Miss., by burning at the stake and the impend-

Mississippians Sign Not To Lynch Slayer

JACKSON, MISS., (ANP.) —An agreement signed by five thousand citizens of this city and county, is alleged to have been reached that when Walter Dusky is returned here to face charges of murdering two white women, he will not be lynched.

With this statement in hand it is further reported that no soldiers will be stationed at the courthouse to protect the prisoner.

The statement, which is signed by some of the most prominent citizens, and no hoodlums, declares that the "gentlemen" were at one time determined to find and punish the culprit whether he was white or colored but now the "said gentlemen" had agreed that it would be best to permit the law to take its course.

RACE ROW AT AFRICAN HOSPITAL

(Continued from page 2)

be attended. I cannot refuse a patient on the doorstep. Yesterday the matter came to a head, and we handed in our resignations. Of course, as nurses we cannot refuse to help people in distress, and, as you see, we are here yet."

Nurses' Loyality

That is an aspect of this little hospital tragedy that brings out the loyalty of the nursing profession. They have resigned, but still they are on duty. They have struck, but yet are not on strike. "In spite of our attitude," went on the matron, "Dr. Molema sent a note on Friday stating he was bringing another patient. I asked him to call on me, which he did, and I reiterated our attitude towards him, pointing out we had no objection to attending on colored patients. He said he did not expect me to do what I did not want to do but that patients had the right to admission. At present we have in the hospital three of his patients—a white man, a white girl of 20, and an older white woman."

The two trained nurses were also interviewed and they bore out the matron's statement.

Last Monday Dr. Molema brought in a white man to be operated on for appendicitis. The matron explained the position to the patient, and said she would admit him, but that the staff would not attend to him during and after the operation. As such treatment is essential, the man decided to go to Kimberley.

Mr. S. A. Minchin, the chairman of the Hospital Board, told me that they had written to the Cape Administrator a long time ago, but had received no reply for a month. The reply took them no further, so they wired him last Saturday and received a reply to the effect that he was considering the legal position.

Mr. Minchin indicated that the board was in a difficult position, and that he, as chairman, did not feel disposed to give his views, although they sympathized with the nurses.

Dr. Molema's Career

From authoritative source here I have obtained details of Dr. Molema's career. He graduated as M. B., Ch. B., at Glasgow University in 1919, and served during the war in Stobhill Military Hospital, Glasgow. Then he went to Coombe Hospital, Dublin, and later was assistant surgeon at the Dublin Skin and Cancer Hospital. He also took a diploma in midwifery in Dublin. Altogether, he was seven years overseas. He returned to his native town of Mafeking in 1921 and set up in practice, which is a wide one, and embraced many white people at one time.

The hospital recommended him to send his patients there, and real opposition started only eight months ago. Doctor Molema had never offended any one in hospital and had always been courteous. He has an up-to-date consulting room in town and a special room with an X-ray apparatus of the latest design, which he has just purchased. He is considered to be an able surgeon and skilled in maternity cases, hence the reason why white patients go to him.

One of his female cases in the hospital is concerned with a complaint to which women are subject, and another is a case of disease in the leg bone.

Dr. Molema is a young, well-spoken man, apparently in the thirties.

Request for Administrator

The first wire sent by the Hospital Board to the Cape Administrator set forth the position that the nurses were resigning, and that the board were in sympathy with the nurses and asking for instructions and an interview with the administrator. He replied that he was investigating the legal consequences of the board's sympathy with the nurses.

After the nurses resigned, the board wired to the administrator that they desired to have a section added to the hospital ordinance, giving hospital boards the right to have a list of medical practitioners who were permitted to have their patients in hospital, at the same time safeguarding urgent cases brought in by doctors from other districts. The board also asked that such an alteration in the ordinance should be gazetted next Friday. To this wire no reply has yet been received.

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Negro Press, (Northern).

Discussion of

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Says S. C. Governor Had 3 Cousins in Lynching Mob

New York, Jan. 14.—Describing in detail the sickening horror of the Aiken, S. C., lynching of the three Lowmans in October, one of whom had been acquitted and the remaining two granted a new trial, Walter F. White, special investigator on the scene, told the complete story of the murderous affair at the annual meeting of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People at St. Mark's M. E. church, 137th St. and Edgecombe Ave., Sunday afternoon, Jan. 2. James Weldon Johnson, secretary, presided at the meeting. Following Mr. White's story a stirring address was delivered by Louis Marshall, famous authority on constitutional law, who declared that a direct appeal to the conscience of the people is the only effective solution to our problem.

Walter White scored Thomas G. McLeod, governor of South Carolina, who had three cousins in the lynching mob, for his "spineless" efforts in bringing the lynchers to justice. A special motion was made by Louis Marshall authorizing the officials of the N. A. A. C. P. to address a letter to President Coolidge where a protest is made against the appointment of McLeod as a member of the federal trade commission, giving as their reason the retiring governor's pusillanimous, derelict and weak attitude in the Aiken murder. The letter was read [illegible] audience.

In League With Klan

The high lights of Mr. White's story follow:

Arriving at Aiken he found the atmosphere fairly reeking with hatred. Judge Samuel Lanham had apologized to the citizens of Aiken for the temerity of the attorneys who dared to defend the Lowmans. It was learned that Judge Lanham was in league with the Klan. Although Damon Lowman had been acquitted and released, he was later rearrested and assaulted. Judge Lanham had held Bertha and Clarence Lowman and had given the case to the jury. Judge Lanham knew that the lynching was going to take place. In the courtroom on the afternoon of Oct. 7 a client of one of the court lawyers was heard to remark that he would be away "to help lynch three niggers."

Sheriff Overpowered

Sheriff Nolley Robinson declared that he was totally ignorant of the fact that any trouble whatsoever was about to take place. He testified that he was thrown to the ground and overpowered when the lynchers came to the jail. Taylor, the jailer, testified that "it just happened" that on the night of the lynching he had the cell keys on his person. There is a vault in the Aiken jail behind bars an inch and a half thick in diameter, and the door of the vault is of the same thickness. It is an ironclad rule of the jail to keep all the cell keys in this vault, and when a key is needed, only the single key is taken out, used, and returned to the vault, but on the night of the murders Taylor, who is a very effeminate mannered southern (?) gentleman, had ALL of the cell keys on his persons.

It is said that an obliging policeman had cleared the roads of traffic so that the lynchers might have the right of way.

The three Lowman's were taken from their cells, Bertha screaming and pleading, and huddled in the murderers' autos.

Thousands Gather

A mile and a half away many thousand people had gathered by prearrangement to witness and take part in the barbarous entertainment.

After the cars had started Damon tore himself from his captors and leaped out of the automobile. A shot from a murderer's gun brought the innocent man to the ground. A rope was secured and tied around Damon's body, and the other end of the rope was tied to the rear axle of the car. Damon was dragged thus over the rough road to the scene of the killing.

The victims were released where the mob waited and were told to run. As they did so their bodies were riddled with bullets. Clarence Lowman was killed instantly, happily, but Bertha, with many wounds, pleaded pitifully for them to spare her life. Death was their answer!

The courage and self-control of Walter White was severely strained when a member of the mob told him what he considered "a good joke." The murderer told him, laughingly, "The d— wench pleaded just like a billy!"

"I have requested Attorney-General Daniel, who, in co-operation with Solicitor Carter, who is in charge of this case, to lay aside all other matters, and give all necessary time to the task of clearing the name of our state to the end that those guilty may be tried in our courts and a true verdict rendered according to the evidence."

Pardons Martin

Governor Richards went further in his steps of co-operation when he granted a pardon to Heyward Martin of Aiken, restoring his citizenship rights in order that he may testify before the Aiken grand jury concerning the Lowman lynching.

The Aiken Lynchings

(From The New York World.)

A denunciation of Governor McLeod's irresolution and delay in dealing with the Aiken lynchers naturally marked the annual meeting of the Association for the Advancement of Colored People heree. But the officers of the association did not stop with that. They asked for passage of the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill as a Federal remedy for these unpunished atrocities.

The World does not believe in the Dyer Bill, but when justice fails in any State the demand for Federal action gathers strength. The World still hopes that South Carolina will make an example of the Aiken lynchers. Governor McLeod goes out of office on Jan. 18; his successor, John G. Richards, is pledged to prosecute the lynchers to the full extent of his powers. He has ample ground on which to act. Detectives have obtained evidence which Governor McLeod admits is sufficient not merely for the indictment but for the conviction of a number of participants. The Criminal Court opens its term in Aiken on Jan. 24. Pressure may be brought upon Governor Richards to forget his pledges, but the honor of the State is involved.

Conspicuous Editorials

RESPECT THE LAW

(Miss.) Clarion-Ledger

Coffeyville, Kansas, is the latest stage for the perennial American tragedy of mob law. The hysteria of Coffeyville is only another proof that mobs and their doings are the sole property of no particular section of the United States. The heartening feature of the Kansas case is that officers of the law appear to have succeeded in holding off the would-be lynchers of a suspected assailant of two girls until he could be identified. The victims were unable to say that he was their assailant and he was freed.

Thus was Coffeyville saved the embarrassment inseparable from lynching the wrong man. Accuracy is extremely desirable in such matters. It cannot be said that the town was saved anything on the score of its reputation for law and order, since a full-fledged race riot was the aftermath of the futile effort to storm the city hall, which was badly wrecked and only the prompt appearance of the militia saved a bad situation.

Deplorable as are these exhibitions of barbaric blood lust, aroused by revolting crimes, even though they are, there is a sameness about them all, whether they occur in Chicago, Atlanta, St. Louis or in the state that is associated with the exploits of John Brown. Human nature is very much the same north and south. Crime of a certain type always stirs a desire for swift vengeance. Self restraint under such conditions is the test of a community's respect for law.

More and more there is growing up in all sections of the country the feeling that mob law is a mistake, a grievous blot on the reputation of the people any element of whom flout the orderly processes of justice and take vengeance into their own hands. There have been too many cases where innocent men, white and black, have been saved from too swift justice by timely discovery of evidence that exonerated them for apologists for lynch law to be able to make out a case.

The inescapable effects of mob violence are that the dignity of the law is dragged in the mire, bad feeling is generated and what little deterrent may be exercised upon those inclined to commit similar crimes is offset by the permanent damage done to the cause of law and order. Thus the practice defeats its own purpose.

Governor Right, Aiken Wrong

From Brooklyn Daily Eagle.

We do not know what mistaken sense of restraint led Governor John G. Richards to ignore in his inaugural message the duty of South Carolina to punish mob murder. His omission was severely criticized by some newspapers, The Eagle among them. He has now set himself right.

Governor Richards desires to have the criminals who slew three Negroes one woman and two men, in Aiken County, traced, identified and punished. His order to the Attorney General and to the State Solicitor is to lay all other matters aside and give all necessary attention to the task of clearing the name of our State to the end that those guilty may be tried in our courts and a true verdict rendered according to the evidence." These are not weasel words. They compel the respect of all citizens, North and South. And the Governor's explanation of the situation is interesting.

Three persons have been shot down while in the custody of the law, and there are those who are guilty of the murders, and yet no one has been punished or even arrested. Now the State has strong evidence but is powerless to actually try any one unless the Aiken Grand Jury first presents for trial those who were connected with this terrible affair.

And the State is actually powerless for the present, because the Aiken County Grand Jury, defying the evidence before it, which does not seem to have been weakly presented, refuses to present for trial—to indict—anybody. So while the Governor has exercised all his legal powers, has vindicated his position in the eyes of modern civilization, Aiken County is in a worse position than ever.

In other words, some local sentiment is protecting the mobsters. To bring against this the sentiment of the better people of Aiken County is the Governor's task. The same problem has been more or less in evidence in the prosecution of lynchers, North as well as South. It has never been met [illegible] in any part of America.

Lynch Law In South Carolina

(*From The New York World*)

The Grand Jury of Aiken County, S. C., reports that it finds the evidence submitted concerning the lynch-law murder last October of Clarence, Demon and Bertha Lowman, Negroes, insufficient to warrant indictments. The perpetrators are well known in the community. The finding of the Aiken Grand Jury simply upholds lynch law in defiance of the known facts.

Gov. Richards is fortunately alive to the smirch upon the honor of the State left by the Aiken County mob. "There can be," he says, "no justification of lynch law, I care not what the offense." The lyncher "strikes at the very foundation of our civiliza tion." Gov. Richards is not through with the case:

The Aiken lynching, which the evidence shows was the act of a very small group of men, is one of the most bestial that has happened in our State. I promised in my inaugural address that I would stand for the majesty of the law. I meant what I said. I promise the people of South Carolina that if it lies in my power the Aiken lynchers shall be brought to justice.

Aiken County's shame has attracted the attention of the whole country. Orderly and law-abiding citizens everywhere will hope that Gov. Richard's arm may prove long enough and strong enough to grasp and punish the murderers.

A Georgia Judge On Mobs

Preston News Service

Charging the Treutlen County (Ga.) Grand Jury with special reference to the outrageous attacks on residents by mobs, Judge Graham of the Oconee circuit said "Mobs can not be trusted, for they move without rule or law or reason." There is wisdom in these words. The judge is an observer and thinker.

Good men, incited by a condition which the peace officers and the courts have failed to correct, may be tempted to move against and wipe out that condition. But, again quoting Judge Graham, 'when citizens take the law in their hands, no matter what their motive, they become a mob"—a hideous thing because it is blind to reason and bent on crime.

The mob spirit is infectious. Under the spell of it men have committed horrible brutalities. And always the mob's crime makes for lawlessness. No lynching ever put down crime. Every lynching sows the seeds of crime and invariably these seeds flower and all of us must pay for the flowering.

LYNCH CONVICTION

IN 1926, OUT OF OVER 30 LYNCHINGS, CONVICTION IN ONLY 1 CASE — INTERRACIAL COMMISSION SO DECLARES IN STATEMENT COMMENDING GOVERNOR OF SO. CAROLINA

Atlanta, Ga., Jan. 31, 1927:—The Executive Committee of the Commission on Interracial Cooperation in called session at the Henry Grady Hotel yesterday adopted resolutions strongly commending the recent statement of Governor John G. Richards, of South Carolina, relative to the Aiken lynching, and calling upon the people of South Carolina to support the Governor in his expressed determination to bring the perpetrators to justice if within his power. The resolutions call attention also to the lynching record for 1926 and to the fact that in only one of the thirty cases reported have there been any convictions, and appeal to the American people to put an end to these conditions. The statement of the Committee follows:

"We, the Executive Committee of the Commission on Interracial Coopration, have noted with keen appreciation the vigorous statement of Governor John G. Richards, of South Carolina, relative to the Aiken lynchings, and especially his expressed determination to bring the perpetrators to justice, if within his power. We call upon the people of South Carolina to support Governor Richards to the full in this laudable purpose.

"We would point out also the fact that though thirty lynchings were reported in the United States in 1926, in only one have any convictions been secured, while in most cases not even an arrest has been made.

"Such conditions constitute a grave indictment of our legal processes, our civilization and our Christian professions, which we as a people cannot afford longer to endure. We, therefore, appeal to the justice, the chivalry and the conscience of America, and particularly of our own Southland, to put an end to these conditions, once for all.

"Lynchings may be the act of small and irresponsible groups, but the persistent failure to apprehend and convict the perpetrators lays the guilt upon us all."

The resolutions were unanimously adopted by the Executive Committee, the members present being: Dr. Ashby Jones, St. Louis; R. H. King, Walter B. Hill, E. Marvin Underwood, Dr. Plato Durham, Rev. W. W. Alexander, and Dr. John Hope of Atlanta; Dr. C. B. Wilmer, of Sewanee, Tenn.; Dr. Edwin Mims, of Nashville, Tenn. and Dr. Josiah Morse, of Columbia, S. C.

South Carolina Accepts Disgrace

South Carolina, where the pendulum of lynch sentiment has swung in history to wider extremes than in any other state in the union, not only disgraces itself but accepts that disgrace with complacency.

Study that state if you want to understand some of the deep seated foundations of racial hatred. Plods Yankee financiers of the North who clip cotton mill coupons should understand how their child labor system which has retarded even white education and made much of the colored education only a joke, has contributed to the Aiken horror.

Intelligence, backed up by opportunities for material prosperity is the only cure for South Carolina. There gross ignorance, not of colored men and women but of whites, and blood sucking economic conditions, produce the hatreds out of which lynchings grow.

Poor whites have not yet stopped venting their spleen on colored men in memory of Reconstruction days. The prosperous and right thinking whites are helpless; for where in this country would you find men more outspoken against mob law than the editors of the Columbia daily papers?

Some twenty years ago a Governor of South Carolina stood on a rail fence platform and begged an unmasked mob to let the law take its course in the case of a colored man they had captured to lynch. They listened until the end of his speech and then immediately proceeded to do the poor wretch to death.

That a grand jury should even consider seriously convicting white men for mob murder represents some gain in South Carolina. NO WHITE MAN THERE HAS EVER BEEN PUNISHED YET FOR MOB VIOLENCE.

Immediately following the fiasco of the Aiken County Grand Jury, The Columbia State calls on the Legislature to appropriate $25,000 to be used by Governor Richards to vindicate the honor of the State.

This followed a statement by the Governor who said:

"I promised in my inaugural address that I would stand for the majesty of the law. I meant what I said. I promised the people of South Carolina that if it lies within my power the Aiken lynchers shall be brought to justice.

"I am familiar with the evidence gathered by Governor McLeod and his officers and that secured by myself, and I am convinced in my own mind that it makes out a prime facie case. The failure of the grand jury to present those charged before it must rest squarely on their shoulders."

No, Mr. Governor, the failure rests on you and every citizen in these United States from President Coolidge down.

EXPRESSED BY OUR CONTEMPORARIES

Lynch Law in South Carolina

(From the New York World.)

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A GEORGIA JUDGE ON MOBS

[The Arkansas Gazette]

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Lynchings - 1927
Discussions.

Negro Press, (Northern.)

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1926 Lynching Record

AGAIN it becomes our sad duty to record that during the year 1926 thirty-three persons, including two women, met death at the hands of mobs in various parts of the South. It is needless to add that most of the victims were Negroes. The latter and lynchings are practically synonymous, but this need not always be so, because the same disrespect and disregard for law that is evinced by a mob bent on lynching a colored man or woman may some day break all the way over the color line and cause lynching—not necessarily the lynching of Negroes—to become a national pastime. 1-5-27

FLORIDA heads the list with eight mob atrocities, followed closely by Texas with five, Mississippi, four, Arkansas, South Carolina and Georgia, three each, and Kentucky, New Mexico and Virginia, one each. Twenty-nine of the victims were Negroes, three white and one an Indian.

IN A STATEMENT, James Weldon Johnson, of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, accounts for the increase, as follows:

> "There is one excellent and reasonable explanation of the increase from eighteen lynchings in 1925 to thirty-three in 1926. While there was threat of a Federal law, with consequent jurisdiction of Federal Courts over this crime, the lynchers hesitated. When the United States Senate refused to discuss the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill, that was equivalent to serving notice on the lynchers that they could pursue their pastime virtually unmolested.
>
> "So far only one lynching, and that one in Georgia, has been visited by punishment at the hands of the law. The United States Senate refuses to discuss the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill because of the obstructionist tactics of a small group of Senators from the lynching States."

WE ARE FIRMLY convinced that, if mob violence is ever stopped in the United States, it will be stopped as the direct action of the group which suffers most from mob violence. . A Federal anti-lynching bill would help and it is feasible that such a bill would afford the opening wedge against the evil; but it has been clearly demonstrated that a Federal anti-lynching bill will not be passed as long as there is nothing except sentiment in back of it. Most United States senators and representatives are conscienceless on the subject and it is reasonable to expect that the bill will be ignored in Congress until Northern Negroes, armed with their ballots, prove to them that the defeat of so humane a measure as an anti-lynching bill will mean their own ultimate defeat for every office to which they aspire.

OTHER PAPERS SAY

CAROLINA'S CHANCE TO HELP MAKE LYNCHING UNPOPULAR

[The Arkansas Gazette]

It is of interest to the whole South that the state of South Carolina promises to press investigation, including a second grand jury inquiry, into the outrage at Aiken last October, when a mob, breaking into a county jail, slew two Negro men and a Negro woman in brutal defiance of the law, which the members of the mob had the stupidity, or the effrontery, to pretend they were championing. Speedy and implacable action in South Carolina to make the law supreme, following the action of a Georgia county in discovering, trying, convicting and sentencing to prison a gang of lynchers, should be a first step toward the final suppression of this evil which tarnishes the good name of the South and outrages the affection and pride which true southerners feel for their homeland. Every piece of decisive action helps to consolidate public sentiment, and to shame lax or cowardly officials to similar corrective measures.

When the road home from a lynchings bee runs penitentiaryward, this savage amusement quickly palls on its devotees.

The Shame of South Carolina

We have in mind many empty phrases, we know of many words wasted, we can think of many foolish dreams that never can be realized. All of these are strong expressions in comparison with the headline "The Shame of South Carolina," the Aiken Grand Jury Refuses to Indict the Lynchers of the Lowmans." The inhuman butchery of the innocent woman and her two relatives by the leading white citizens of Aiken will never be avenged. The indignation of Governor Richards and of the entire South Carolina government is mockery, the necessity as the nation sees it, of the Palmetto State removing the stain of this ghoulish mob outrage from its escutcheon is a delusion. South Carolina like most of the other Southern states is in the slough of her racial despond. Lynch law is her established unwritten law. Redemption for Dixie must come from the American people, not from the southern people; from the government at Washington and not from the government at Columbia. The "Shame of South Carolina" is a tragic joke.

FLORIDA LEADS IN LYNCHING IN 1926. — NEARLY DOUBLE THE FIGURES OF 1925

There have been 33 persons lynched during the past year. There is one reasonable explanation for ths increase from 18 lynchings in 1925 to 33 in 1926.

While there was a possibility of a federal law being enacted whereby the federal courts would have jurisdiction, the lynchers hesitated in committing this heinous crime. But when the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill failed enactment, some claim this was the equivalent to serving notice that the lynchers might invade their pastime virtually unmolested.

So far Georgia is the only state where lynching occurred, to sentence a lyncher to life imprisonment.

NEW YORK TIMES
JAN 17 1927

COOLIDGE DECRIES LYNCHING

Delegates of Negroes Find Him Sympathetic to Plea for Aid.

Mrs. Ruth Whitehead Whaley, an attorney, of 206 Broadway, and Professor S. R. Williams, who were appointed representatives of the National Negro Development Union and the National Centre Political Party to ask President Coolidge for aid in preventing lynchings of negroes, have returned from Washington, where they saw the President on Friday. They said they were encouraged by the President's reception.

"The President deplored the fact of lynching," said Mrs. Whaley, "and said that if the United States was unable to protect its negro citizens, it was in fact unable to protect any of its citizens. He promised to take up with the Attorney General the suggestion of having martial law declared in the place where negroes were lynched just as soon as the lynching occurred, on the theory that a riotous uprising was imminent or had existed."

Mrs. Whaley said the President had been told that negroes had no faith in the efficacy of anti-lynching bills, such as the Dyer bill, but relied instead on the enforcement of the Thirteenth, Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments for protection. She said the President's manner had been "most cordial and sympathetic."

THE DISGRACEFUL LYNCHING RECORD

THE lynching record of the United States from reconstruction days to the present time numbers quite 4,000 persons. Some years there is a falling off only to have an increase in other years. It appears to be a matter of temperament. Most of these lynchings have occurred in the Southern States where all of the machinery of making and enforcing the laws is in the hands of the white people, with the Negro having no voice whatsoever in the matter, although he is made principally the victim. There is no excuse for lynch law in such States. When they allow the mob to take prisoners out of the jails and during their trials and lynch them they abdicate the functions of orderly government, which the Federal constitution makes obligatory upon them, and they invite the interference of Federal legislation which they so much object to. Lynching is purely a police matter of the States, but if the States do not control it the Federal government can be called upon to do so.

The United States is the only nation which tolerates lynch law. The Southern States, where most of the Negro people are citizens, are the only States in the republic which encourage lynch law and protect it by failure to arrest and prosecute and punish those guilty of taking the law into their own hands. There are evident signs that the nation has become aroused to the injustice and shamefulness of the lynching lawlessness and that a way will be sought and found to destroy it by legal process. It is high time that this should be done. Toleration further of lynch law is a national crime.

ANTI-LYNCH PLEA MOVES PRESIDENT

Promises Delegation To Submit Query To The United States Attorney General Soon

NEW YORK, Jan. 26 — If the Federal Government has the power to declare martial law in Herrin, Ill., because of a riotous uprising, why cannot similar action be taken in communities where lynching occurs and mob law prevails, is a novel question President Coolidge has promised to submit to the United States Attorney General, according to Prof. S. R. Williams and Mrs. Ruth Whitehead Whaley, who returned to New York Friday following a twenty minute talk Tuesday with the President. They visited the White House as representatives of the National Negro Development Union and the National Negro Centre Political Party of New York. The appointment was arranged by Senator Copeland.

The President is reported to have deplored that justice has not been allowed to take its usual course in the case of the Lowmans, who were lynched at Aiken, S. C. and to have remarked that no one was more conscious than he that a lynching is a blot on the country's history. If we can't protect our Negro citizens, then we can't protect any citizens. Mr. Coolidge is said to have told his visitors.

The difficulty in obtaining passage of an anti-lynching law was cited by the President, who recalled that while he was Vice President, Senators opposing the Dyer bill filibustered four days.

Mrs. Whaler, who is a lawyer, raised the point of invoking the same power and authority the Government used at Herrin. Mr. Coolidge is reported to have admitted the suggestion was a new one, never before considered in connection with lynching.

The resolutoin presented to the President was adopted at a mass meeting held here Dec. 19, and calls on him "to enforce the Thirteenth Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments with the same vigor as the Eighteenth Amendment and that protection be given Negro citizens as the exigencies of the circumstances demand, making it impossible for a Negro's life to be taken with impunity to satisfy the whims of a blood-thirsty group of fiends."

Composer Of "Lynched" Succumbs

ATLANTA, Ga., Jan. 13.—Black and white Georgia mourned the death, here last week, of Frank L. Stanton, poet laureate of the state, whose end was caused by an illness contracted Christmas Day. Stanton was the author of the poem "Lynched" and other famous lines, including "Mighty Lak' A Rose."

The poem, written when the poet was 18, first attracted the attention of Henry W. Grady, then editor of the Atlanta Constitution as well as Joel Chandler Harris, author of the "Uncle Remus" stories.

"I came at dusk," Mr. Stanton said, in telling of his inspiration "to a cross-road where at dawn a Negro had been lynched. The body was hanging to the tree. Nearby, on a log, sat a Negro woman and a little Negro girl. So I sat down and wrote:

"The tramp of horse adown a sullen glen,
Dark forms of stern, unmerciful masked men;
A clash of arms; a cloven prison door,
And a man's cry for mercy, then high o'er
The barren fields, dim, outlined in the storm,
The swaying of a lifeless human form,
And close beside, in horror and affright,
A widowed woman, wailing, to the night.

The Governor of a western state, reading the poem two weeks later, commuted to life the death sentence of a man destined to have been carried out the next morning.

LAW IS SILENT ON TEXAS LYNCHINGS

Little Action Taken To Punish Members Of Mob And Prosecution Only Made On Slain Man's Wife

CONROE, Tex., Feb. 9—Little has been done, and it appears that little will be done, toward punishing the members of a mob that lynched Tom Payne, 25-year-old colored American, near here Feb. 1. No arrests had been made up until Monday and no definite steps taken to apprehend the lynchers.

Arrest Slain Man's Wife

Hattie Payne, wife of the slain man, is being held on a charge of assault to murder in connection with an alleged attack upon a white mill hand, Jack Roger. She strongly denies any knowledge of the attack and declares that her husband was innocent.

Taken On Suspicion

Payne was hanged after being taken rom two Montgomery County officers, who were taking him to Huntsville. He had been arrested on suspicion following the finding of Rogers in a pasture near here with his throat cut. The lynching occurred about 1 o'clock Tuesday night on a roadside four miles from Conroe. Rogers wound was found to be slight. He is expected to be released from the hospital here this week.

Little Action Taken

County Attorney J. W. Strode, of Montgomery County, Monday had "nothing definite to give out" on investigation of the lynching. When questioned, he declared the grand jury will not meet until May and no special term had been called to probe the crime. Little could be learned from Judge J. L. Manry, who is conducting court in Polk County, and Sheriff Ben Hicks who has left town.

The county attorney was idefinite as to who and how many had been questioned about the lynching.

"Certainly men have been questioned," he said in answer to the query. "I don't know how many or who they were. J. L. Pitts, district attorney, who is my law partner, could tell more about that, but he is out of town."

When asked if he was not present when persons were questioned, Strode said: "Sometimes, but I couldn't be in a dozen places at once."

"Were there more than a dozen questioned?" he was asked.

"I don't know. I haven't anything to give out," he said.

"Were those questioned white men?"

"Certainly they were," Strode replied.

"Land of the Lynching Bee"

Quoting from the statistics of the N. A. A. C. P., showing 34 lynchings in 1926 as against 18 the year before, the Locomotive Engineers Journal for February, 1927, in an editorial headed "Land of the Lynching Bee", says:

"This shameful record will doubtless cause renewed efforts for the passage of the Federal Anti-Lynching Bill. It has also evoked a petition to President Coolidge to withhold an appointment to the Federal Trade Commission from Governor Thomas G. McLeod of South Carolina, who is charged with failing 'for family reasons' to proceed against the lynchers of three Negro workers at Aiken."

Lynchings-1927 I.
Discussions

Negro Press, (Northern)

2443

A STORY OF A LYNCHING

By MARCET HALDEMAN-JULIUS

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2443

Prelude

I HAD been in Little Rock, Arkanas, just two days in early May of this year when I was an unintentional participant in a little incident that so revealed the public state of mind that I have decided to relate it. For more than anything that was told me, this episode made me realize the quality of the corroding, bitter dislike so many there feel toward Negroes. The atmosphere of that beautiful Arkansas city is indeed so saturated with it that, to an unprejudiced person, it seems at times literally difficult to draw a full breath. Little Rock—the capital of Arkansas—is one of the loveliest cities of its size you can imagine, full of beautiful homes, majestic public buildings, wide, clean streets, lovely spacious lawns and rose-laden arbors. But this is what happened.

To begin with, I think you should understand that I am not a person to whom disagreeable experiences are likely to occur. I am a small woman—just five feet tall—anything but officious in manner. By temperament I avoid being conspicuous, and am usually quick-witted enough to foresee and eschew any move that might be misconstrued. Add to this that I am in my late thirties and have, even to the casual eye, I think, the unmistakable appearance of being well-bred, and you can see why I never before have met with any flagrant discourtesy.

From Quebec to Mexico City, from the Atlantic to the Pacific, I have traveled alone and on all sorts of errands—errands which have taken me into strange places and among all conditions of people, from the highest to the lowest. Never before have I been rudely affronted by any stranger, white or black. But in Little Rock I was insultingly harassed by a man whose general appearance was such that I presume he considers himself a gentleman. And in Little Rock I had the unique experience of hearing an officer threaten me with "calling the wagon." A rather fine type of officer he was, too, on the whole, but so steeped in his prejudices that I am certain he felt, simply and naively, that no white woman who could feel as I did could be quite respectable. I bear him no ill will, for he is the perfect product of his environment, as was the man who started the trouble. It is because, and only because, both of them are such perfect products that they will be of interest to you and that this story becomes necessary in these pages, if you are to understand the lynching of John Carter on May 4, 1927, and the sadistic orgies which followed it.

I was on my way out to the penitentiary to interview Warden S. L. Todhunter, who had so bravely driven back the mob that, in its anger, had broken open the penitentiary gates the previous Sunday night. As it was rather a long ride out there, and as the institution could be reached directly by street car, I took it instead of calling a taxicab. The street car, a commendably clean and attractive one, with comfortable gray velour seats, was somewhat crowded when I got into it and there was only one seat vacant—the very back one. I noticed that, in the seat across from it, there were white people sitting (no colored people were seated at all), and therefore I judged it would be all right to sit down. Presently a white man took the empty place beside me, rode a few blocks and got off. This left that seat vacant. The one opposite me also became empty, and two colored people sat down in it. Immediately in front of me were two white women. Looking up I saw standing beside me two young colored girls. The one was about 17, well dressed, very light of skin; the other, equally well dressed, was older and a little darker. I noticed the longing glance the younger one cast at the seat beside me, and the thought crossed my mind that she was afraid I would object to her taking it.

"Sit down, child," I said quietly. With a pleased look she sank at once to the seat and, with a gay, girlish smile, patted her knees in invitation to her companion to sit on her lap. This the other girl did.

Suddenly there was a commotion behind me. In a loud, snarling, hostile voice, a man demanded over my shoulder, "Pardon me, but aren't you a white woman?" I looked somewhat startled, I suppose, but automatically answered, "Yes." I shall never forget the tone in which he addressed those colored girls. It was the essence of insolent offensiveness. The words flew. The gist of them was, "You get up from there!" The girls obeyed instantly, positive terror in their faces, as the younger one stammered, "She asked me to sit down," and turning to me started to say, "Didn't you?" but checked herself, seeming to fear that to do so might be construed by myself as rudeness.

"I certainly did, my dear," I said firmly, quickly determined that those two young things were not going to suffer for any error of mine. And completely ignoring the man, I added "You must forgive me for causing you this embarrassment. I had no idea such a scene would take place."

The man retired to the back platform and continued in a loud voice that half the car could hear, to express his opinion of me. "Nigger lover!" "Wanta pet 'em up!" "This isn't Chicago!" were three of the phrases, but presently he appeared to subside. I turned to get a good look at him, and I suppose he read my utter contempt in my eyes. For perhaps a block or more we rode in peace, I sitting quietly, the girl standing. Then the seat opposite me became vacant and the girls sat down in it.

Suddenly the man went staggering down the aisle, and, in a loud voice began to tell the motorman all about it. (It was a pay-as-you-enter car.) I could hear only parts of what he said. "Fine all of 'em," drifted back. Apparently the motorman was not interested, and just before we came to a curve the man got off.

"Thank goodness," I thought to myself, "that's the end of that unpleasant person!" I never was more mistaken, for presently a Ford came chugging alongside the street car and the bully—he was a florid fellow with a fanatical glitter in his eye—got out with a man whose general bearing proclaimed him to be an officer.

"There she is!" shouted my tormentor, pointing at me with a quivering forefinger. "There they are!" The officer strode down the aisle, hostility and belligerency streaming from him. "What's the trouble?" he stormed at me. "What's all this about?" Menace was in his manner.

Now I was more annoyed with myself than I can tell you to think that by any lack of foresight I had taken, however unintentionally, the slightest chance of getting into a difficulty. The last thing I want is any publicity when I am working on an article of this kind. My whole method of getting at facts is to mingle with possible informants, errand and identity entirely unknown—except to those from whom I am asking formal interviews; and not to argue with people, but, for the moment, assume their point of view and so absorb it. From judgment and habit, when I am in Rome I do as Romans do, and to be candid with you, had I dreamed that by asking that pretty girl to sit down I should have occasioned any such rudeness, I should not have done so. But done it I had, and that was all there was to it. With a swift resolve to keep my temper, no matter what happened, I looked up at the officer and asked in an unequivocably quiet and courteous tone, "Well, what is the trouble?"

His blue eyes snapped. "Don't you get fresh with me," he flared, "or I'll call the wagon!"

I think that ordinarily he would have approached me quite differently. But, to him, the idea that I would be not only willing to sit beside a colored girl, but had actually invited one to sit beside me, placed me in the category of the Negro himself which is to say in the category of people beneath all right to courtesy. Of course, I don't know what long cock-and-bull story the man may have told him. Undoubtedly the latter had exaggerated. In the inflamed mood in which he was it would have been almost impossible for him to perceive the truth, much less speak it.

"There's the niggers," he said, vicious contempt in his tone and manner as he pointed. The officer turned to them. At that I stood up. "Now, see here," I said quietly, keeping my voice low, but informing it with both decision and authority, "if anything has been done which should not have been done, I am the only person responsible for it. These girls have behaved perfectly. I asked them to sit down and they sat down. This gentleman asked them to get up and they got up. Now what, exactly, do you want?"

"What are you sitting here for?" growled the officer in a slightly less insolent, but still unmistakably hostile tone. "I sat here because there were no other empty seats," I returned. "Get over there," he ordered, and pointed to a seat further up the car which had just recently become vacant. Without another word I walked quietly over to it and sat down, the officer and the bully following. It was only too easy to see that the incident was not terminating at all to the latter's satisfaction. He snarled out a lot of rude talk at me, and the officer made no effort to stop him.

"That's enough," I said suddenly, in a tone which left no doubt that I meant it. "Gimme your name," said the officer. "Hand me a pencil and paper," I replied. And both he and the bully, silenced at last, watched me write it. "Come on," said the officer to him, and they got off, their whole manner implying that they had taught one "nigger-lover" a much-needed lesson.

All this time, you understand, the car had stood stock still, and the people had that look in their eyes that one sees in those of horses when, suddenly startled, they lift their heads from grazing. As they listened their expression became more and more curious and hostile. I might have been some fantastic and quite unacceptable animal. They were not very intelligent faces, nor were they mean ones. Under certain circumstances, when warmed by kindly emotions, they were probably pleasant enough. In a word the people were the sort that make up the warp of any city like Little Rock.

It was not until the car started again that I realized just how profoundly the rudeness of the men had shaken me. I began to tremble—not through fear or from the slightest feeling of humiliation, but from sheer shock. I felt precisely as I should have felt had I witnessed an ugly accident. The ride was finished without further incident.

But I can assure you that if I had lost control of my temper, or had allowed myself to become panicky, a nasty situation would have developed. The least that would have happened would have been that the two young colored women would have been arrested. The terror in the girls' eyes before they could feel certain I would be fair and honest, the insane glint in the eyes of the florid man, I never shall forget. He made, you see, three deliberate, unprovoked efforts to start trouble.

first, with me; second, when he swaggered up the aisle to the motorman, trying to get the other men excited; and third, when he actually went so far as to get off the car, summon an officer, overtake the car, get on with the officer and accuse me of—well, to this day I don't know exactly what.

Undoubtedly, like the other white people who were occupying the back part of the car (as they usually do when the front part is crowded), I was in point of fact breaking an ordinance. But it certainly was not because of this that all the commotion ensued. No, indeed. Nor was it because the man himself was directly concerned. It was because his race consciousness was so abnormal that he considered a normal attitude in anyone else his own personal grievance.

That florid man, who may be, under ordinary circumstances and in the usual contacts of life, a likable sort—his face was so distorted with hatred and prejudice that it was impossible to judge his countenance fairly—that man, or rather his prototype, multiplied by several thousands, all with equally developed race hatred, was the man responsible for the horrors of the four days which it will take years for Little Rock to live down. Had I even by mere silence implied that those girls had sat down unasked, it is impossible to tell what brutality might have followed. When John Carter fell into the hands of similar men they murdered him.

I could understand, in a vivid, thoroughly comprehending fashion, as never before, why Arkansas is fourth in disgrace among all the States in the matter of lynching. Georgia leads the ignoble band, Mississippi runs a close second, and Texas is third. It is a matter of record that during the last 26 years 245 men and women have been lynched in Arkansas. (Nor do these figures include, of course, those killed in the Elaine massacre.)

It is because, in all its main essentials, the lynching of John Carter was so typical of these other 245 lynchings that a study of it is of permanent interest.

The First Tragedy

Like most lynchings, this one was the result, not merely of the immediate events which led up to it, but also of the state of mind of the lynchers when these events occurred. Therefore we must first consider the case of Lonnie Dixon.

April the twelfth of this year (1927) was a cloudy day in Little Rock, and by the time school was out a storm was threatening. Little Floella McDonald should have gone straight home, but she did want to get a book at the library. She was a dear, flower-like little thing, was Floella, just 11 years old, with soft brown eyes and chestnut-brown hair which, cut in bangs, framed her sweet, wistful face. The picture in this article, the last one taken of her, shows her as she was a year before her death—when she was 10, and as she looked in the pretty costume she wore in a pageant given by the Kramer school. I asked her brother John (when I went out to her home), to show me about how high she came on him. She was just exactly the height of my own 10-year-old Alice, who is not a tall child. Like Alice, too, she was in the fifth grade at school. By all accounts she must have been an exceptionally sweet, trusting child, as the next to the youngest of a large family so often is. (There are six of them, John told me.) Mr. McDonald is a cooper in a box factory, and their home, set close to the street but shaded by two large maples, obviously is that of a none-too-comfortably fixed but self-respecting working man.

The public library was the last place at which Floella was seen by any grown person who knew her. It was between 5 and 6 o'clock when, with "Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch" under her arm, she started forth (in her little black and white dress, pink, blue-trimmed hat, rolled stockings and sandals) to hurry home. Even a child must have realized that haste was imperative if she wished to escape getting wet. But she had lingered too long at the library. By the time she reached the First Presbyterian Church, at the corner of Scott and Eighth streets, it was raining hard and little Floella hurried up the steps to get under shelter.

Directly across the street from the church is the Little Rock Boys' Club, and standing in the doorway of it was a 15-year-old, blue-eyed, brown-haired, light-colored boy, Lonnie Dixon. The picture of him in this article has obviously been retouched, but it was the best I could get of him. It was taken, too, at a moment when life looked gloomiest to him and he knew that everyone was hostile; when he had every reason to feel what was the truth—that he had not a single friend in the whole world who would dare defend him in his right to plain justice. How would you look at such a moment? Quite naturally all that is worst in the boy is to be read there.

Lonnie's father, Frank Dixon, who is part Indian, was the janitor of the Presbyterian Church. The consensus of opinion seems to be that he is an honest and industrious man, although not a particularly likable sort. At times he takes too much to drink. He and his life have not lived together any too peacefully, and, I am told, even have separated for periods. It is in this atmosphere that Lonnie has been raised. His mother, also a mulatto, has done her best. After Lonnie's trouble she collapsed and had to be taken to a hospital. I was told by colored people who know the family well that his two sisters who either have gone nearly through high school, or actually have finished it, are quite well thought of. One is an office girl for a doctor and one works in a laundry. They are not by any means considered—the Dixons—to be among the better class of Negroes in Little Rock, nor are they by any means among the lowest class. They live in a trim, well-painted, yellow-and-blue house in a block occupied entirely by other Negroes, some of whose houses are much less tidy. A neat flower box and comfortable swing are on the porch.

From the time Lonnie was 11, and in the sixth grade, it has been difficult to keep him in school. It was while he was still 11 (April 30, 1923) that he was arrested for stealing a pair of pants, but he was released on probation to go to school. His father took the child with him to El Dorado. At this time the Dixons' home life was anything but a helpful environment for a difficult, complex and rather sullen-natured boy, such as Lonnie. He needed to be managed both intelligently and with a firm hand. Unfortunately both intelligent guidance and firmness were totally lacking. On January 22, 1924 (he was 12 at this time), he was arrested for passing a bad check for $5 on a doctor. Charles E. Moyer, now mayor of Little Rock, was at that time county judge and heard the case. He released the boy to his mother on condition that she would make good the $5. She promised to send him to his uncle in Mississippi. In December, 1926, Lonnie was again arrested in connection with a check for $10 on a colored woman and bound over to the Grand Jury. On January 13, 1927, Circuit Judge McGehee, acting on the advice of the probation officer, suspended the sentence, dependent upon Lonnie's future behavior and the understanding that the money would be refunded. He was released to his father.

I go into the boy's record in this detail because the most fanciful stories of his alleged misdeeds were poured into my ear. Prosecuting Attorney A. B. Cypert himself said to me, "You know there are two other indictments pending against him now?" (He is quite a delightful chap, Cypert, 38, and very youthful looking at that. At one time he was a professional baseball player; also he was a lieutenant of infantry overseas. Arkansas born, bred and educated, he reflects the Arkansas attitude toward Negroes, but is determined to fulfill, to the letter at least, his every duty.) His tone implied that the indictments were of some moment, but as he could not, just then, from the files in his own office, conveniently supply me with the exact details, I looked them up for myself. A pair of pants, swiped when Lonnie was 11, $5 when he was 12, and $10 when he was 14, together with a rebellious attitude toward school, sum up the lad's misdemeanors. Unprincipled, idle, struggling with all the sex problems which make life so difficult for every adolescent boy, white or black, and with a sense of allegiance to no one, he watched little Floella McDonald run up the steps of the First Presbyterian Church late that afternoon of April 12th.

Now, as to what followed we have only the word of the police department of Little Rock. Lonnie made no written confession, nor was any disinterested person given an opportunity to talk to him quietly, dispassionately. Up to the time I left Little Rock, more than a week after his arrest, he had had no lawyer and no legal advice of any kind. (It was because he had had no lawyer that the prosecuting attorney gave it as his opinion that it would not be fair to Lonnie for me to see him!) The double crime of which he is accused is, beyond all words, damnable. I am inclined to believe, moreover, that Chief Rotenberry (who impressed me as a just, fearless and honorable man) is sincerely convinced of Lonnie's guilt. (I shall tell you of the crime in a moment.) But it was Chief Rotenberry himself, who told me that he obtained this confession only after he had questioned the lad for 24 hours, during which time Lonnie had neither food nor sleep and during a considerable part of it was standing. At the end of the session, it is alleged that Lonnie led the way to a garage where he had hidden Floella's hat and book. Chief Rotenberry unlocked a drawer, took them out, and showed them to me. There was something infinitely pathetic in the sight of them, and I felt a lump rise into my throat as inevitably there came to my mind a picture of the dear little girl so happily tripping along toward her terrible fate.

It appears that when Lonnie saw Floella run up the church steps he ran after her and pushed open the door. It had been ajar, and she had gone inside to get a drink. Lonnie met her in the hallway. His father had gone to the ball game—the first of the season. The little girl and the lad were alone in the church. The door into the Sunday School room was open and Lonnie promised her—so the story runs—two of the little chairs she particularly liked if she would climb to the belfry with him. Up the circular stairs and 50-foot ladder, through two manholes they clambered to one of the two turret-like towers. There it was easy for him to compel her to do as he wished. Then, realizing the enormity of what he had done, "afraid she would tell," he picked up a brick and struck her on the head with it. Leaving her there a crumpled heap, he fled down the ladder and stairs, snatched up the little girl's hat and book and hid them.

The police claim that Lonnie led them to these articles. But anyone who is familiar with police methods in practically any city in the United States would not consider at all far-fetched the idea that they, in fine-combing the city, had themselves found the hat and book, and then forced Lonnie to admit, first that he had seen them before, and then that he had hidden them.

On the other hand, as I told you, I was quite impressed with Chief Rotenberry. For 20 years he has been a peace officer, serving as everything from probation patrolman to chief of police. He is in his eleventh year of continuous service as chief in Little Rock. In his gray suit and gray-sprinkled hair, with his tired kindly eyes, he gave an impression of weary but unwavering patience. Four times he has quelled mobs and no prisoner while under his custody ever has been lynched. He is a considerably older and firmer-looking man than his picture indicates, and the lines in his face are all to his credit. The day I saw him he seemed worn and haggard, but he was simple, unaffected courtesy itself. At the risk of his own life and knowing only too well the temper of the people, he had seen to it that Lonnie and his father (for the latter's own protection) were successfully transferred to safety. This is the man who tells me he is convinced Lonnie is guilty of the crime he himself (Rotenberry) heard him confess.

And understand me, I am by no means convinced that Lonnie Dixon is innocent. On the contrary, I am inclined to believe myself that he is guilty, but most emphatically there has been raised in my mind a reasonable doubt of his guilt. No one in Little Rock, under the circumstances, until the boy had been brought to trial and the evidence been carefully sifted before a jury, had any right to conclude that he was guilty. Surely this should be too obvious even for statement. And yet, the very day after the lad was arrested Mayor Moyer was quoted in the daily press as saying, "I sincerely hope that Little Rock citizens will let the law take the speedy course it has followed so far. **Lonnie will not escape the electric chair. We allow Lonnie's execution to be done according to law.**" If this was not a promise that there would be a legalized lynching, I should like to know what it was.

A trial, it ought scarcely be necessary to point out, presupposes a fair hearing of a case before 12 men who are able to swear, on oath, that at the time they hear the evidence they **have not yet formed an opinion which it will take evidence to remove.** Does anyone in Little Rock or out of it pretend that it was possible to find 12 men in Pulaski County who could so swear? The Bar Association of Little Rock voted to select a committee whose names it would submit to the judge who would try Lonnie that His Honor might choose from among them someone to defend the lad. Do you know why? Because that Bar Association knew only too well that any lawyer, who, in the

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Discussions.

interest of justice, would have the courage to volunteer to defend the boy, would so incur the enmity and hatred of the people of that city and vicinity that his legal career would be endangered. This way, any member of that committee selected could say (and truthfully), "Well, the job was not of my choosing; I was drafted." This explanation of the Bar Association's move is not my own conjecture. The daily press of Little Rock was very frank about it, as you can read for yourself if your care to look up the files for that day.

Whenever I suggested that the only decent thing to do was to get a change of venue for the boy I met with this stern response: "He can get as fair a trial here as anywhere. There isn't any doubt but that he did it." The brazenness with which he was universally judged before he was tried is too appalling! "If he isn't executed, lynching will increase, because the very claim of the people who lynch is just this—that the law lets too many such offenders escape." The implication was plain that, even if he were innocent it was best for the common good that he should be killed. Underneath it all was the more or less subconscious thought—sometimes openly expressed: "He is only a nigger and the other niggers need a lesson."

I ask you, how would you feel if your 15-year-old boy (Lonnie was born June 24, 1911) were accused of rape and murder, and the only proof against him was the word of the police department? How would you feel under those circumstances, knowing what you do of police methods everywhere? And knowing, too, that his oral confession had been obtained only when he was at the point of exhaustion? Would you be convinced, to your shame, that he was guilty? I doubt it. You would demand much more unbiased proof. Would you be satisfied to turn him—that boy of your own—over to a lawyer chosen by lot, as it were, and have him tried in a city, the mayor of which had already promised the people that he would be executed and where the prosecuting attorney had assured the citizens (so he himself told me) that they need have no fear the death penalty would not be asked on account of the boy's youth. (In Arkansas even a child of 12 may be legally put to death for a crime. Between the ages of 12 and 14, however, it is assumed that the defendant is incapable of distinguishing between right and wrong, but this presumption may be attacked by the State and proved to the contrary. On the other hand, when a defendant is 14 years or over, he is presumed to be capable of committing a crime, and this presumption must be disproved by the defense.) Would you consider it fair to deal with an adolescent as one would with a grown person? You would at least demand a change of venue for your own boy—you would demand a lawyer unsaturated with prejudice. And what is right for your boy and only what would be right for him would have been right for Lonnie Dixon.

(To Be Continued)

LYNCHING THE LAW

[Boston Post]

It is horribly true that a scratch inflicted on a civilized man often reveals a savage. The other day in a New York subway a Negro and a white man became involved in a controversy, and the white man was stabbed with a pocket knife. Instantly a roar was heard as of wild beasts enraged. A surging crowd began to yell, "Lynch him, lynch him!" A tragedy was narrowly averted.

In those few tense moments the dark side of the American disposition to violence was revealed. Usually lynching is explained away by reference to long standing racial antagonisms of the South. But in this case the crowd was of New Yorkers. Very likely not a single person of the hundreds who cried out for a lynching was born south of the Mason and Dixon line. No doubt many of them had first seen the light of day on the continent of Europe, where off-hand violence is not a popular disposition.

The sorry truth is that lynching is decidedly American. We make more laws than any other people and respect them less. There is no class of society that is not prone to "take the law into its own hands," which means to disregard law entirely.

America cannot have clear title to being the land of the free and the home of the brave until the cowardly disposition to lynch when provoked shall have been discarded.

AN INTERRACIAL AWARD.

For saving Joe Hardy a Negro prisoner from a mob bent on lynching him, Sheriff U. T. Downs of Louisiana has been awarded a medal of honor by the Interracial Commission.

We heartily approve the awarding of this medal to Sheriff Downs, because he, unlike most of the sheriffs or peace officers, did not take his prisoner and flee by night and stay in hiding two or three days waiting for the mob spirit to abate, but met the leaders of the mob with a firm statement that "the prisoner will be protected at all cost." This firm stand was too much for the mob. There was no begging or pleading with the mob to let the law take its course. Fear for their own lives caused the members of the mob to retreat to a more congenial clime.

This is the proper procedure in dealing with mobs. If the mob fails to heed this warning the next step is hot lead. We guarantee this method as an absolute cure for mob violence. We doubt however, whether it does anybody good when the officers of the law adopts the method of running and hiding from mobs to protect prisoners. In fact, we think it is cowardice—par excellent.

Y STUDENTS CONDEMN LYNCHINGS

(Columbia Press Bureau)

WASHINGTON, July 15—Resolutions condemning lynching and mob violence were adopted by the Y. M. C. A. Student Conference for the South east, which met at Blue Ridge, N. C. in annual session.

Referring to the occurrence in recent months of "numerous instances of this fearful crime, particularly in the States of Mississippi and Arkaneas," the resolutions set forth that "we earnestly hope the public officials and Christian citizenship of our country will use every means of upholding the law and cultivating public sentiment against such atrocities."

MOB TRAILS MAN WHO ESCAPED AND THEN LYNCH HIM

Local Dailies Attempt To Write Humorous Stories Of The Orgy

BAILEY, N. C., AUG. 17.—A new form of mob violence took place here last week when Thomas Bradshaw, accused of a statutory offense, escaped handcuffed, according to reports, and was then chased by foxhounds for 3 days until he was exhausted. Reports also stated that a Bradshaw emerged fro mthe wooded area with the dogs at his heels, a posse of armed men let go with a volley and he fell dead.

Local papers here are said to have carried the following story relative to the capture.

Once, a few hours after the crime he was arrested. Handcuffs had been placed on him.

W. G Boswell, Bailey policeman, D. C. Bissell and Percy Murray, carried Bradshaw, still handcuffed down a lane of a neighboring farm house out of sight

"I want to pray," said Bradshaw, apparently thinking he was about to be lynched.

"Go ahead," said Boswell.

"Tom was within a yard of me," said Boswell, telling about the experience, "I had my eye on him. He made one wild leap and was gone. I fired at him. The boys with me jumped in after him and I couldn't use my gun for fear of hitting one of them. Neither one of the others had a gun. He leaped a fence waist-high, with a top of barbed wire and disappeared.

Copper Jokes

Boswell was the butt of much good humored joking in the crowd of two hundred or more that waited patiently around the body for the coming of the coroner.

"What do you mean by letting a man pray for you and then running him to death?" asked one.

Boswell grinned. He was glad that the chase was over, visibly relieved at the end of it.

Rocky Mount, Nashville, even Wilson as well as the whole countryside, shared in the crowd that gathered in the pine woods to wait for the inquest. Some brought kodaks along. Pictures were snapped, the body turned over for minute examination. They squatted about the ground speculating.

Nobody seemed particularly curious about the identity of the man or men firing the shots. They were deeply interested as to whether or not Tom Bradshaw's feet were torn.

Children Present

While they waited for the coroner, the crowds came and went. Some drove up within a few feet of the man's body in their Fords. Others parked a mile away and walked it. It was precarious driving through a woods road, circling tobacco patches. Some brought children along. One little fellow, hardly more than five years old, took his stand at the dead man's head and stayed there during most of the afternoon. A minister, Dr. E. C. Manness, brought several children to view the dead man then hurred them away.

"That's enough," he said, when they had one good, awed look

The dogs did it. That was the consensus of opinion that paid high tribute to the worth of Jonah Perry's foxhounds. No bloodhounds there. Just Walker fox hounds but good, fullblooded fox hounds, that gave to the chase the semblance of a fox hunt.

THE TRUTH ABOUT VIRGINIA'S "RAPE" CASE

Editor Chicago Defender: In view of the fact that it is very difficult in some instances for your staff to get first-hand, as well as the whole truth in the matter of lynchings in many of the places where they are committed, because of the bias-minded white editors and prejudiced reporters, whose very aim it is to crush the truth of the matter as to who is guilty of violating the law, the Negro as charged or the white man who deliberately takes the law into his own hands, and executes justice upon the brute (as he classes them), I feel that it is my indispensable duty as a Race man and an educator to make known such truths as come my way, on behalf of my people in cases of the above-named kind, whether they are guilty or innocent.

I am only an adopted citizen of the state of Virginia, and having an interest in the welfare of my Race at heart, upon hearing of this most savage act in Wytheville the afternoon of its occurence, I made a special trip to the town, Wytheville, where Byrd (Raymond) had been shot and killed in his cell in the chicken coop jail there, where he was held awaiting trial for assaulting two young white women, got facts in the case from some who were well acquainted with all conditions leading up from the association that existed during the life of Raymond Byrd and the assaulted white women, to the lynching.

As you know, it was reported that Byrd had assaulted two young white women and was lynched by an unknown mob, whose identity was not known to the jailer in charge, by the various papers of Southwest Virginia, and, as usual, one or two white men, one among the many who participated in the mob was indicted and tried in the recent term of court, whose name is given as being a self-confessed member of the mob, Floyd Willard, the jury went out just about long enough to rest their tired limbs from sitting so long listening to the

mock trial, and returned in 10 minutes recommending a complete exoneration, and declared the defendant not guilty.

This alleged assault came about thus: Raymond Byrd, the lynched, was a married man who lived on the farm of the father of these assaulted white women, and having been intimate with each of them for some time, it was learn that the oldest of the girls would soon become a mother, and did become such in the maternity ward of the local hospital in Washington county, Abingdon, Va.

The child is now in the care of a Negro woman, who belittled herself in the estimation of every Race-loving man and woman, by taking that which the very much esteemed and assaulted white woman would not own even after giving birth to it, in the town where its father (an assaulter) was lynched. The other sister was reported to the writer as being a candidate for the maternity ward by the self-same Raymond Byrd. Now, if the association of opposite sex who, because of their association become father and mother, is to be classed as rape, assault, insulting, to what class of words do the words mutuality, mutual consent, etc., belong I leave that for the world to answer. This is the truth, and the truth indeed in this case. Byrd is dead; his wife and children of her body still live; so does the offspring of an alleged raped or assaulted white woman.

While I do not wish to be classed as smart in matters of this kind, I feel it my duty to let my light shine (a brother's keeper), when it comes to letting the world know the truth of things pertaining to the maltreatment of my people. I have tasted the bitter dregs of the lyncher's cup in the death of one of my relatives in the state of Alabama many years ago, and I know the pangs of the serpent's tooth; then how could I refrain from discharge my duty in times like these?

I hope you will find space enough in your next issue to publish what you feel the public should know in this particular case, and if printed, I want to be able to see it bring some results as a pointer towards getting the truth when the truth is needed to be known.

Sincerely yours,
A SUBSCRIBER.

those composing it have any sympathy for the Negro they shot or care whether he lives or dies. The injustice done him doesn't worry them.

But suppose the mob had succeeded in lynching the Negro, and then mutilated his body beyond recognition, as so often happens? In that event the community would have assumed that the dead Negro had committed the crime, and thus the real criminal would have escaped punishment altogether. And, having had justice thrown off the track by the mistake of the mob, maybe he would have been encouraged to commit a similar crime later.

We wonder how many lecherous brutes, guilty of criminal assault, are enjoying freedom today because mob violence was visited upon innocent people?

The mistakes of the mob, no doubt, are many. The mob itself is a mistake.

DEALING WITH MOBS

[Arkansas Gazette]

The people of Ouachita county have a right to be proud of their sheriff, Arthur Ellis, whose prompt action at Camden ended the possibilities of a race riot. As a result of an alleged attack on a young white woman by a Negro, volunteer posses, composed of armed men in a feverish state of excitement and acting independently of the constituted peace authorities, were ranging the neighborhood. The members of one of them fired on and wounded a Negro whom they encountered on the highway. Sheriff Ellis immediately arrested 14 alleged members of the posse, charging them with rioting, disturbing the peace and carrying concealed weapons. After this action of the sheriff had broken up the mob he found himself confronted with a second mob, composed largely of young men. "The sheriff gave them 10 minutes in which to disperse. In 10 minutes there was no mob."

Those words, quoted from the dispatch to the Gazette reporting the occurrence, tell the whole story with eloquent terseness. The mob knew their man, and had no eagerness to attempt defiance of the authority which was reposed in him by the law, and which he did not hesitate to enforce to the full.

THE MISTAKE OF THE MOB

[Memphis Commercial-Appeal]

The few who are still so opposed to constituted authority that they prefer mob violence to the orderly procedure of justice should not overlook what happened in Ouachita County, Arkansas, last week.

A mob, said to number 200 men, went out to wreak vengeance on the wretch who had attempted to wrong a young woman. They came across a Negro who somehow had fallen under suspicion, and began firing. The Negro was wounded and captured.

Officers got hold of the prisoner and took him to the girl for identification. One look at the captive and the young woman promptly told the officers he wasn't the guilty man.

That was convincing, and the innocent Negro who had been shot was released. The 15 alleged members of the mob who were later arrested and jailed probably think they are being done a great injustice. So far as the mob itself is concerned, we doubt if any of

WHY WE HAVE LYNCHINGS

[New York World]

Extract from a dispatch from Frederick, Md., Extract from a dispatch from Frederick, Md., the arrest of a Negro for the murder of a white woman:

"Quick work by the sheriff and his deputy and a warning from State's Attorney William M. Storm that any attempt to molest the prisoner would result in murder indictments alone prevented lynching."

Excerpt from a dispatch from Louisville, Miss., supplied by the Associated Press and telling of the burning to death of two Negroes who had murdered a white man:

"W. S. Parmenter, deputy sheriff, and two other officers were taking the Negroes to Jackson for safekeeping. They were overtaken near Noxapater by a mob which blocked the highway and demanded the surrender of the prisoners. The officers at first refused to surrender them and fired several shots in the air in an effort to frighten the mob, whose number was estimated at 1,000, but the mob was insistent."

The moral of these two dispatches is plain—the Maryland officers meant business; the Mississippi officers did not. And that, it seems reasonable to infer, is why Mississippi has lynchings and Maryland does not.

BURNING THE AMERICAN FLAG

When a crowd at Casablanca wanted to make a demonstration against the United States, because of the Court's action against Vanzetti and Sacco, it selected the United States flag. According to press reports a large American flag was carried to the gate of the American Consul and after satuating "Old Glory" with coal oil, set fire to it and burned it in the presence of the police and in front of the American Consul.

There is something about this action that draws our attention. We reason that some of these people know something about how the American people burn human beings assisted by coal oil and wood etc. The police of that country standing by giving passive assistance to the burning of the American flag must have been copied from the police and sheriffs in America who stand idly by when mobs are burning their victims at the stake; and in front of the American Consul's office, must have been copied from a recent lynching at Little Rock, Ark., when the mob burned a Negro in front of the Mosaic Temple Building. Surely, there is some significance to things of this sort.

LOOKS LIKE KLAN WORK

Down at Barretville, Tenn., a few days ago, a mob ran down a Negro, took him to a church yard and then and there riddled his body with bullets.

The victim, Thomas Williams, was suspected of having attacked a white woman in the community the day before. No proof that Williams had attacked the woman was in sight, and his denial of guilt fell on deaf ears so far as the mob was concerned. Of course, mobs never listen to reason, but there is no doubt in our mind but that a different tale would have been told if a little time had been given to search for some white man, who, no doubt, committed the crime, and brought the Negro into the scene to keep from being punished.

Everybody ought to know, by this time, that it has become quite common in this country for white people both men and women to accuse a Negro or Negroes to hide their own crime. They have taken the advantage of race prejudice, which they know exists. They play up "color" rather than crime and make the Negro the victim.

The staging of this lynching in a church yard, looks to us very, very much like the work of the Ku Kluk Klan. Especially does it look the more suspicious because it was a prominent white church of the community. It will be remembered that the Ku Klux Klan moves and operates under the guise of righteousness, supported largely by the protestant church. Many of its strongest supporters hoist their sails as protestant ministers, but in reality, they are wearing a cloak of the devil.

We are confident that the church in whose yard the lynch-shooting occurred harbored all, or at least most of the mob members who did the foul deed.

The churchyard scene signified the approval of the church. And more, it supposed to mean the calling in of God as a witness to a righteous deed. Surely, this is mockery of God of the most brazen sort. It is foolishness to even assume that God is pleased to see the "apple of His eye" used for a such damnable purpose.

Just recently, in St. Louis, two white girls who stayed out too late with their fellows in "lovers lane" in Forest Park, told the brazen story to the police that they had been attacked by a Negro and their companions robbed. The two fellows corroberated the girls' story and the police went off on a mad hunt for a Negro, ready to yank up the first Negro within sight or hearing. It will be just as easy to "identify" any Negro so arrested as it was to lie about it in the first instance.

These matters are called to the attention of the public that the world may see and know just how unjust it is to the Negro race for the officers of the law to be those who are color blind and prejudiced.

Lynchings-1927.
Discussion.

Negro Press, (Southern.)

2421

NEGRO'S CASE BEING GRADUALLY WON IN LAW COURTS OF LAND

SO SAYS NATIONAL ASSOCIATION IN ITS SUMMARY OF LAST YEAR'S REPORT

Legal Wins Main Achievements

Association Prosecuted Ruthless Campaign Against Lynching—Secretary Appears Before Senate Judiciary Committee On Anti-Lynching Bill

New York, Jan. 1st—The Negro's fundamental citizenship rights are being gradually secured and established in the courts of law, according to a summary of its annual report for 1926 issued today by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

"The main achievements of the association during the current year have been its outstanding legal victories," declares the summary of the N. A. A. C. P. annual report. "Through the courts the gravest forms of injustice and disability to which the Negro is being subjected, are being slowly conquered."

The report lists the following outstanding legal victories won during 1926:

1. By the acquittal of Henry Sweet in Detroit, in a second trial, (all defendants having been tried together in the first) the noted attorney, Clarence Darrow, maintained the right of the Negro to defend himself in his home against the attacks of mobs seeking segregation by violence and intimidation. The Sweet case was reported by the press throughout the country and had a decided effect in a number of cities which were moved to protect colored residents when threatened and avoid such disorder and expense as fell to the lot of Detroit.

2. The United States supreme court having declared its lack of jurisdiction in the so-called Washington segregation case, new cases have been begun and are in progress, with the intention of appealing them to the supreme court and forcing a definite decision on the question of segregation by agreement among white property owners. The new cases are under the supervision of Mr. Louis Marshall, member of the N. A. A. C. P. board of directors and one of the foremost authorities on constitutional law in the country.

3. In Indianapolis, a residential segregation ordinance enacted by the city council and signed by the the mayor despite protests of colcase having been contested from beginning to end by the Houston, Texas, branch of the N. A. A. C. P.

In addition to these major cases ored citizens, was fought by the N. A. A. C. P. branch and declared unconstitutional on the basis of the decision in the Louisville segregation case, won in the supreme court in 1917 by the N. A. A. C. P. A similar victory was won in Norfolk, Virginia.

4. The N. A. A. C. P. sent its check for $250 to pay costs of an appeal to the supreme court of South Carolina, in the case of J. Davis, sentenced to life imprisonment for shooting and killing a white man who had come to take Davis' two daughters away.

5. The right of colored editors to freely speak for their race against injustice in the south, was fought for in the case of Messrs. William Warley and I Willis Cole of Louisville, charged with libel for protesting against discrimination between white and colored defendants in speed of trials and severity of sentences imposed. The N. A. A. C. P. paid the entire legal fee of their first trial, amounting to $500 and has appealed the convictions and fines imposed.

6. One of the most important attacks ever undertaken by the N. A. A. C. P. on the disfranchisement of colored voters in the south, the case of Nixon vs. Herndon, originating in El Paso, challenging the right to exclude Negro voters from the "white primary," was prepared for trial in the United States supreme court to be argued before that tribunal on January 3rd.

7. In Texas, Luther Collins, a young colored man first sentenced to death in 1922 and later to 99 years' imprisonment on a false charge of assault upon a white woman, was freed in September, the legal defense, involving fundamental citizenship rights of the Negro in the United States, made possible by the legal defense fund, many minor cases and civil suits were undertaken by branches and by the national office. Of the civil suits the most important was brought shortly before the close of the year in behalf of Mrs. Blanche S. Brookins, who, despite her status as a passenger in inter-state commerce, was removed from a Pullman sleeper in Palatka, Florida, forced to spend the night in jail, and fined $500 and costs for violating Florida's "Jim Crow" law. The N. A. A. C. P. took active steps in bringing Arthur Garfield and Clarence Darrow into the case. In behalf of Mrs. Brookins these attorneys filed suit for $25,000 against the Pullman Company and the Atlantic Coast Line Railway.

Lynching

In the association's seventeen-year campaign against lynching, no more important achievement has occurred than the dramatic and daring investigation by the Secretary of the N. A. A. C. P. of the lynching of the three colored people, Bertha, Damon and Clarence Lowman, in Aiken, South Carolina, on the morning of October 8. Mr. White not only obtained a complete story of the lynching with ample corroboration, but also the names of persons including officers of the law, mentioned in sworn affidavits as having taken part in the mob murder. These names were sent to the Governor of South Carolina, Thomas McLeod, and the facts given by Mr. White to the New York World. With the result that that newspaper sent its special correspondent, Oliver H. P. Garrett, to the scene, where he remained several weeks, broadcasting such a picture of conditions as no lynching community has undergone in the history of American journalism.

The result of this dramatic achievement has been to revive the issue of lynching throughout the United States, church bodies, newspapers and many individual citizens voicing a renewed demand for federal action to stamp out this crime.

Symptoms of an unprecedented interest in the subject of lynching took the form of a long article by Seval Zimand in the N. Y. Times giving not only facts and figures supplied by the N. A. A. C. P. but also arguments for and against the Dyer Anti-Lynching bill; a similar article in the Philadelphia Evening Bulletin; and editorials throughout the country. A conspicuous development in December was the first pro anti-lynching display of a New York daily, the Evening Graphic.

Despite the increase in the number of lynchings from 13 in 1925 to 33 in 1926, more attempted lynchings than ever before were prevented by local authorities in various parts of the country, testifying to an aroused sentiment against mob executions.

The Dyer Anti-Lynching bill was again introduced by Mr. Dyer in the House of Representatives and by the late Senator McKinley of Illinois in the Senate. At a hearing before the Senate judiciary committee, the association's secretary appeared and read into the record extensive data, printed in a separate document by the Judiciary committee.

Even the white dailies of the South found it impossible to ignore the anti-lynching campaign of the N. A. A. C. P. frequently mentioning the association by name in this connection.

Southern States Visited

In addition to other sections of the country, during the year, 1926, staff officers of the N. A. A. C. P. visited and spoke in Texas, Louisiana, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia Georgia, Alabama, Arkansas, Mississippi, New Mexico, Arizona, Tennessee, Kentucky, West Virginia and Missouri. "During the last five years," says The Crisis editorially, "there is not a single Southern State that our secretaries have not visited and most of them repeatedly."

THE WEEK'S EDITORIAL: WHITE PRESS

THE NEED FOR A FEDERAL ANTILYNCHING LAW

Lynchings, which in the last two years have shown a gratifying decline, are again on the way up in the United States. One of the most horrible crimes in recent years was the triple lynching of three Negroes in South Carolina. These victims were taken from the jail and killed, although one of them had just been declared innocent after trial, and the other two, one a woman, had been granted a new trial. It is alleged that the police officers were accomplices in this crime. The public authorities of South Carolina were as usual doing nothing until Walter White of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and later the New York World goaded them into action. It is yet too soon to predict that there is courage enough and decency enough in South Carolina to bring the lynchers to justice.

Not to be behind hand in crime, Texas reports a triple lynching for reasons unknown! Two of the victims, a man and his wife, were burned to death in their cabin. This is in the country of the fundamentalists who pride themselves on their religious zeal.

In view of these facts and others like them, it is high time to revive

agitation for a federal antilynching law. It would, of course, have been better if the states had taken care of this matter. A federal law will not be self-enforcing. Nevertheless, if American citizenship means anything it means the right to life as against the mob. The United States is bound to guarantee that to its Negro citizens. Undoubtedly the previous agitation for the Dyer antilynching bill in CCogress was partly responsible for the improvement in the South. This time support lynching bill in Congrtss was partshould be given to the bill in dead earnest. .There is no room for sectional feeling in this matter nor can the North, in view of its own race riots, assume a holier-than-thou attitude. All of us as decent citizens must get together to remove from the United States a disgrace which is not shared by the most backward peoples on the earth.

—(From The Record, Seattle, Wash. Dec. 6, 1926.)

LYNCHERS ARE COWARDS, SAYS SHERIFF

Washington, Mar. 21—The New York "Times" for March 10th publishes an interview with an old-time southern sheriff in which he declares that lynchers are cowardly. "Just give me one deputy rifleman—I would not want but one—" the ex-sheriff is reported as saying, "and I will stand off from a jail any mob of 500 that ever was mustered to do an unfortunate to death without due process of law. I have seen the thing work out time and time again. The realization of cowardice in the mob undermines and saps their courage, if they had any to start with.

"Our modern lynching mobs," continued the ex-sheriff, "operate in defiance of the law; they flout all the safeguards of courts, sheriffs and police. They are not representative citizens, and they trample by these means a civilized community set up for itself. They know all this full well, however buoyed up by liquor they may be on the occasion of the 'lynching bee.' Half or three-quarters drunk, as is the case with most lynching mobs, they are never too befuddled not to understand just how far to go in opposition to a determined and fearless sheriff. Make no mistake, they will save their own precious hides. Very rarely did you ever hear of a member of a lynching party receiving injuries."

It is a sad truth that sheriffs of the type of the narrator are so conspicuous by their absence in the Southland.

EDITORIAL

FOR LAW AND ORDER

The record of lynchings and mob law is not a very encouraging one. We had hoped 1926 woud pass with the best report of all years. Behold, there is almost fifty per cent increase of lynchings, one notably being the most atrocious of history, or equal to the most.

We do not wonder that colored people are either leaving mob-ruled States holding themselves aloof from public concerns or organizing for person and family defence. It is evident a new type of men are appearing. Race riots have opened eyes to see some things not before seen. A hint to the wise is sufficient.

Law enforcement is more important than is any other civic function. The republic, and civilization, depend, rest in law—the Constitutoni is the foundation. Lynching all mob-law rules, discard the Constitution, inviting anarchy. When law enforcement ceases the republic ends.

There is no more reason which the 18th and the 19th Amendments should be enforced than there is the 13th, 14th and 15th Amendments should be enforced; the principle of law enforcement is the same in all, one chain of authority binds the whole Constitution in one organism.

Colored citizens declare, as do a few white citizens, that discrimination on account of color, segregation of races, disfranchisement, lynching, mob rule are fraught with perils to the republic and spell hte dissolution of law and order and the end of civilization sustained by our federal form of government. Violation of one law invites violation of other laws.

Colored Americans believe that the race discrimination to which they are compelled by state laws and governmental provisions to submit, is fundamentally wrong. They believe that failure of southern States to enact statutory provisions to enforce the 13th and 14th and 15th Amendcents and the Congress to reject representatives and senators elected without regard of a million Colored voters in the south is but dishonest and to strike a fatal blow against law and order. They further believe that all of the Jim Crow, so called, provisions of public travel and public institutions are acts against the supremecy.

Protection of individual rights, republican form of government, State rights and prerogatives and an independent judiciary are the four pillars of the structural republic built and in the Constitution. But what becomes of them and the Republic when other than officials duly elected and appointed flout lawful authority and procede to take the law into their own hands and to lynch citizens? And what becomes of the respect for and honor due the law of the land when parts of the Constitution are allowed to remain a dead letter because enforcement statutes have not been approved? Such are the citizenship amendments. And what sacred sense of obligation to be law abiding can citizens insulted by signs placed in public places that are an affront to every sentiment of culture? The spirit of America does not take kindly or any other way to such insults.

Colored Americans are displeased; they cannot whole heartily stand forth for the enforcement of one law when they see official and citizens derelict as to the enforcement of others equally necessary.

If South Carolina Was Not Such A Savage Reality, It Would Be The World's Best Joke, Says Wm. Pickens.

To the Editor:

Governor Richards of South Carolina is certainly interested in stopping golf playing at Aiken. He knows it is wicked for the people in the winter resort there to play golf of polo on Sunday. He is therefore using all his power as an officer and all the officers under his command, and is even defying the higher courts of the State in his righteous zeal to stop a harmless sort or two. He says that he will send every constable of the State to Aiken if necessary to stop the games and arrest the "criminals" who are driving an innocuous ball across the fields there.

But this governor cannot do a thing about the lynching of three human beings, — one of the most savage acts ever committed by man against man. Of course, Mr. Richards "talked big" about what he would, or rather would not do just before he came into office. But that talk had a purpose: the whole world had its eye on Aiken and on South Carolina at that time and the incoming governor was simply "posing for the picture". Those of us who have had the experience with his "God-fearing" kind, knew that the talk was simply for momentary effect.

The righetous "talk" by this governor, and also that by some of the newspapers of the State, had also another definite purpose: To Keep Down Any Rising Sentiment In Favor Of An Anti-Lynching Law Of Congress. The objective was to fool the north, and to hoodwink northern papers into saying: "The south is all right· they are as much opposed to that murder as anybody else. Just give them a chance". The north is easily fooled in such cases, they seem to want to be fooled· they like to believe, in order to escape the sternness of the realities and to be able to wash their hands, — and feel righteous also. The religious development of the world has at least caused men to want to deceive themselves into feeling righteous. The north likes to feel: "O yes, yes, — we are opposed to lynch-murder all right, — and we would do something to stop it, if we did not see that the south is going to stop it themselves." And men indulge in a lot of mush about the "liberal sentiment" of the south, "the advancing south" and other such sleeping potions which they give themselves in order to escape the inevitable conflict. — Governor Richards knows this. That other governor who went out of office knew it. And so both of them indulged in a lot of religious talk to the public galleries, until the natural resentment of mankind cooled sufficiently, — and now they have all settled back to await the next horrible lynchin-

Meanwhile, South Carolina is determined that little hard rubber balls shall not be driven into certain holes on a Sunday, a thing which, if wrong at all, could only be wrong on Sundays. But murder which is wrong every day in the week and every minute in every day, about that, South Carolina does nothing. The governor is even using as his right hand man in the crusade against golfers; the sheriff, Nollie Robinson, who was also the right hand man of the lynchers.

I was born in South Carolina. I am not boasting; I am just mentioning the fact. If South Carolina was not such a savage reality to Negro-Americans, it would be th world's best JOKE.

William Pickens.

Lynchings-1927
Discussions.

Negro Press, (Southern.)

2422

LYNCHING IN THIS COUNTRY

With the record of the number of lynchings for 1926 for the past year before us, it is impossible for any further hope that there will be a cessation of this most heinous practice by any of the methods most strongly offered by the southern states in their fight two years ago over the anti-lynching bill. With 13 cases more in 1926 than in 1925 and 13 more than the number which occurred in 1924 there is little reason for the hope that the sentiment in the states themselves will be able in time to come to control the evil as it now seems necessary. The power of suasion does not successfully move mobs and the willingness of the officials of the law to seek out and punish members of the mob does not seem sufficient to bring forth the desired result. For during the year the records show that there were only four instances in which members of the mob were brought to justice. In these four instances the number of persons was four and they received sentences ranging from four to twenty years and one was sentenced for life.

The record is a dissappointing one for those who had begun to have hope that the campaign of moral suasion to prevent lynching was likely to prove successful. The lessened number recorded for the two years just preceeding 1926 gave evidence which seemed that good was being accomplished. Probably it was producing good and probably it is still producing good. But that good is of neglible amount when compared with the number of persons who met death this year at the hands of mobs and without the sanction of the courts of law. The state of Mississippi had four of such occurrences and there is no record of any outstanding convictions of members of those mobs. And yet during last year Mississippi was foremost in its pronouncement against lynchers and the leaders of the state spread broadcast a pamphlet setting forth their abhorrence to the crime in no uncertain terms. Other states did likewise by resolution, in public press and in meetings of various sorts. But the practice continues. There is no reason to point now to the fact that the number of convictions this year was greater or to the single instance in Georgia of the life sentence meted out to a mob leader. There can be only one conclusion. And that is to the effect that lynching must be made punishable by federal law. The states themselves have left no other alternative.

During the fight for the Dyer Anti-lynching bill several years ago all of the representatives of southern states howled that the states themselves could and would control lynching. They told of the curtailment of states rights which would result from the passage of such a law by the Federal Congress and made promises none of which have approached fulfillment. No law against lynching has been even introduced in any state of which The Express has record. In few instances has any action been taken since the close of that Congress in which they made their speeches in an attemnt to thwart that much needed legislation. The time has again come for the proposal of a Federal law against lynching. The facts indicate its necessity and there is reason to feel that there is chance for the passage of such a law. Election time is not far away. Negro voters have a place in these elections which is far more powerful than it has been in times past. Why not resolve now to make the passage of a law against lynching the slogan of the race during the next campaign and bend every energy to make strong the contentions for action in that regard? The condition warrants it and relief from the lynching evil in America seems not due to come without the very active interest in it of Negroes themselves. Only a Federal law will stop the outrages which continue to make Negro life in America a mockery and which are constantly and with increasing force making the claims of this country to make Negro life in America a mockery and which are constantly and with increasing force making the claims of this country to civilization and enlightenment, gestures of no importance.

OFFERS AID TO LYNCHERS

Senator Cole Blease, of South Carolina, who gained his seat in the United States Senate because of the favoritism of his constituents who were fed up on his hate for the Negro, appears blatant as he stood before the law-making body of the nation one day last week and declared his admiration for the Negro race.

"When I was governor of South Carolina I pardoned more Negroes than all of the other governors of the state put together have pardoned up to date."

The senator further told of courtesies that had been extended him by Negro leaders of the state, all of which he contended were evidences of the fact that he had been a "friend" to the race.

Hardly had the words of the insincere senator passed away, falling as they did on deaf ears, because of the inconsistency and lack of earnestness, than did he issue statements to his fellow citizens of the "Palmetto" state, signifying his willingness to come to the assistance of any who might be implicated in the wilful murdering of three Negroes—one a woman—who were shot down like common dogs following their being freed of a charge before a court of justice.

N. Y. WORLD CALLS LYNCHING "THE BLOT ON THE SOUTH"

NEW YORK, N. Y., Jan. 28—In its leading editorial on Sunday, Jan 16, headed "The Blot On The South," the New York World again calls attention to the situation in Aiken, South Carolina, on which eyes of the country are fixed as a new Governor, John G. Richards, takes office and confronts the problem of prosecuting the lynchers of the three members of the Lowman family. Quoting freely from lynching statistics and publications of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People to ridicule the "usual crime" excuse, the World editorial says in part:

"There is no defense for lynching to which an American State can give a moment's tolerance in the second quarter of the twentieth century. The old excuse of the ply bunk. There were 3,224 recorded lynchings in the United States during the thirty-year period ending in 1918. Less than one-fifth of the colored men lynched were even accused of the 'usual crime.' This roster of lynchings actually included fifty colored women. The motives for lynching vary. But there can be little doubt that the principal motive in the 4,000 lynchings which are estimated to have occurred in the South since deconstruction is the desire of ignorant and savage white men to strike terror into a subordinate race struggling to rise When the Negroes became self-assertive, these men decide that a lynching 'will take it out of them.' That is the conclusion of careful students. Gov. Dorsey of Georgia told aconference which he called in 1921, when the State in two years had witnessed 135 cases of lynching for outrageous assault:

In some Counties the Negro is driven out as though he were a wild beast. In others he is being held as a slave. In others no Negroes remain. In only two of the 135 cases cited is the 'usual crime' involved.

The N. Y. World in its editorial also adopts the contention of the N. A. A. C P that agitation for and threatened enactment of the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill helped to reduce the number of lynchings in recent years. On this point the World's editorial says:

"In 1922 there were sixty-one lynchings, normal number. But that year the agitation for the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill reached its height, while the South took alarm at the continued Northward migration of Negroes. The number of lynchings declined to twenty-eight in 1923 and sixteen in 1924; it remained at sixteen in 1925. This was due to the pressure of public opinion and the wide effct of the repressive measures of such Governors as Dorsey of Georgia and Morrison of North Carolina."

The World editorial is concluded with the following words:

"The worst blot on the South, the worst blot on American civilization is lynching. Is the State of Rutledge and Hayne and Calhoun going to deal with that blot as it should?"

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"In 1922 there were 61 lynchings, a normal number. But that year the agitation for the Dyer anti-lynching bill reached its height, while the South took alarm at the continued northward migration of negroes. The number of lynchings declined to 28 in 1923 and 16 in 1924; it remained at 16 in 1925. This was due to the pressure of public opinion and the wide effect of the repressive measures of such governors as Dorsey of Georgia and Morrison of North Carolina."

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RETIRING CAROLINA GOVERNOR CONDEMNS LYNCHING

..Columbia, S. C., Jan. 22—(ANP) In his farewell message to the State Legislature, Wednesday, Thomas G. McLeod, retiring governor of South Carolina, proposed the following declaration from every individual assuming office:

"I have not since the———day of ————taken part in a lynching as principal, accessory, or otherwise, and I will not during the term of office to which I have been elected or appointed take part in a lynching as principal accessory or otherwise."

The retiring governor's message further decried lynching and referred particularly the lynching of the Lowmans some months ago. McLeod termed this crime as "This horrible and uncalled for murder." He reviewed the steps that had been taken to bring the murderers to justice and defended his action in not calling a special term of court to thrash ut the matter, claiming that it was not within his power to do so, but urged the speedy trial of the lynchers, declaring:

"I earnestly hope that law-abiding citizens will back up the prosecution; that the jurors will have the courage to do their duty; that the perpetrators of this horrible crime may be brought to the bar of justice and dealt with as they deserve."

Governor elect Richards has been silent as to whether he will do anything to activate the prosecution of the lynchers if indicted. It is, however, reported that he has not reappointed W. W. Rogers, who had charge of the Aiken investigation, as one of the constables.

ANTI-LYNCHING OATH URGED BY S. C. GOVERNOR

(By The Associated Negro Press)

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LYNCHING

In the Association's seventeen-year campaign against lynching, no more important achievement has occurred than the dramatic and daring investigation by the Assistant Secretary of the N. A. A. C. P., of the lynching of three colored people, Bertha, Demon and Clarence Lowman in Aiken, South Carolina on the morning of October 3. Mr. White not only obtained a complete story of the lynching with ample corroboration, but also the names of persons including officers of the law, mentioned in sworn affidavits as having taken part in the mob murder. These names were sent to Governor Thomas McLeod of South Carolina, and the facts given by Mr. White to the New York World. With the result that that newspaper sent its special correspondent, Oliver H. P. Garrett, to the scene, where he remained several weeks, broadcasting such a picture of conditions as no lynching community has undergone in the history of American journalism.

The result of this dramatic achievement has been to revive the issue of lynching throughout the United States church bodies, newspapers and many individual citizens voicing a renewed demand for federal actions to stamp out this crime.

Symptoms of an unprecedented interest in the subject of lynching took the form of a long article by Seval Zimand in the N. Y. Times, giving not only facts and figures supplied by the N. A. A. C. P. but also arguments in the Philadelphia Evening Bulletin; and editorials throughout the country. A conspicuous development in December was the first page anti-lynching display of a New York Daily, the Evening Graphic.

Despite the increase in the number of lynchings from 18 in 1925 to 33 in 1926, more attempted lynchings than ever before were prevented by local authorities in various parts of the ountry, testifying to an aroused seniment against mob executions.

The Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill was gain introduced by Mr. Dyer in the House and by the late Senator McKinley of Illinois in the Senate. At a hearing before the Senate Judiciary Committee, the Association's Secretary appeared and read into the record extensive data, printed in a separate document by the Judiciary Committee.

Even the white dailies of the South found it impossible to ignore the anti-lynching campaign of the N. A. A. C. P. frequently mentioning the Association by name in this connection.

Lynchings-1927.
Discussion

Negro Press, (Southern)

2423

The Bill Of Rights, Lynching And Lawlessness

"That thirty human beings should have been done to death in one year by mobs, without even the formality of a trial, in a country whose Bill of Rights declares that no man's life may be taken without due process of law and that every person accused of an infamous crime has the right to a fair trial by a jury of his peers, is simply past comprehension. It is a record that must make every decent American hang his head in shame."—Bridgeport News Press.

The Bill of Rights declares for some other elemental principles of human justice which are ignored in the legal and political relations of American citizens. The same paper quoted above was a few weeks ago making a passionate plea for a retention in the constitution of the State of the provision which made the three-year prepayment of the poll tax a prerequisite to the right to register and vote because "few Negroes, even if otherwise qualified would be sufficiently provident to pay their poll taxes so long in advance." All lawlessness does not originate with the mob, but the mob takes its cue very often from individuals who openly advocate lawlessness as a means to an end.

DECLARES LYNCHERS ARE ALL COWARDLY

An Old-Time Sheriff Asserts Courage of Officials Will End Flouting of Law

DEPUTY COWED 300 MEN

Southern Mob Seeking Lives of Negroes Quailed Before Rifle of Lone Jailer.

(From New York Times)

An old-time Southern Sheriff, long ago retired to spend the remainder of his life in the home of a son who had prospered in business in New York City, was entertaining a group of his cronies at his favorite "hang-out" on the subject of lynching, and in the course of his discussion he advanced what he called a "certain and sure" remedy for this blot on American civilization. All that is necessary, according to the venerable former officer of the law, is moral courage on the part of those having in custody persons awaiting trial for crime.

"I stress the term 'moral courage,'" he said. "Most Sheriffs are brave men in a physical sense. In all my time I never encountered or heard of but one 'white-livered' Sheriff. The great trouble is, they are elected officials; they depend upon the votes of their fellow citizens to hold on to their jobs, and that is why they so often adopt the easiest way out of a clash with mobs—by abjectly giving up the prisoner for whose life the lynchers are clamoring. The next election always looms as a powerful factor in their course of action when the mob demands the keys of the jail.

"The luckless victims control no votes, whereas the mob members might very well hold the balance of power, or at least wield a strong influence at the polls. At any rate, that is about the way the Sheriff reasons the matter. He is absolutely wrong, of course. In the end public sentiment invariably backs the Sheriff who refuses to truckle to the mob, and Sheriffs who have given the lynchers a taste of accurate gunfire in protecting prisoners in their care are re-elected in about ninety-nine cases out of a hundred, if they again are candidates for the office.

Says Lynchers Lack Courage.

"For nearly fifty years I held various law enforcement positions—in the South and Southwest, and for a while lived in Alaska during the gold rush period of thirty years ago. I have seen a number of mobs in action, and I say unhesitatingly that the average lynching mob is the most cowardly lot of 'yellow' jackals that God Almighty ever breathed life into. I have seen them turn tail too often in the face of real courage not to know whereof I speak.

"Now, let me remark right here that I draw a distinctive line between the old-fashioned Vigilant Committees of the West and the ordinary lynching gangs that infest States where there is every safeguard for law and order. The Vigilants operated where there was no law; they organized as a measure of self-protection; they represented all the law there was at that particular time and place.

"Our modern lynching mobs, on the other hand, operate in defiance of the law; they flout all the safeguards of courts, Sheriffs and police. They are not representative citizen, and they trample on these means a civilized community has set up for itself. They know all this full well, however, buoyed up by liquor they may be on the occasion of the 'lynching bee.' Half or three-quarters drunk, as is the case with most of the lynching mobs, understand just how far to go in opposition to a determined and fearless Sheriff.

"Make no mistake, they will save their own precious hides. Very rarely did you ever hear of a member of a lynching party ever receiving injuries.

"Just give me one sure-shot rifleman —I would not want but one—and I will stand off from a jail any mob of 500 that ever was mustered to do an unfortunate to death without due process of law. I have seen the thing work out time and time again. The realization of guilt on the part of the mob undermines and saps the'r courage, if they had any to start with.

One Against Three Hundred.

"Way back in the early '80s, when I was Sheriff of a county in a Southern State, we had in the jail a couple of Negroes who had been arrested for killing a white farmer in a dispute over a division of crops. The men had been in jail several weeks, and while there had been some talk of violence, it had pretty well died out.

"The community, as a whole, was perfectly willing to let the law take its course and accord the prisoners a fair trial. The Court had appointed an able young attorney to defend them, the defendants being without money to employ counsel.

"But one Saturday, while I was in an adjoining county on some official business, a big crowd of farmers and cotton mill operatives gathered in the little city which was our county seat anr began to 'liquor up,' as the saying goes. The more mean whisky they swallowed the more they felt aggrieved that the two men in jail should be permitted to live until they could be tried in accordance with the law.

"They had no particular interest in or affection for the slain man. It was just an ugly, rum-soaking aggregation that worked itself up to a point where nothing would suit them but a hanging. About sundown they were ready for business. The two or three policemen of the town were powerless to disperse the crowd which gathered on what we called the 'swapping ground,' a place where the farmers were wont to congregate to swap horses and talk politics and share 'wigs' from their quart flasks of corn liquor.

Calmly Awaited the Mob.

"Bill Holly—dead these long years, and peace to his ashes, for he was the nerviest man in a tight place it was ever my pleasure to meet—was my deputy and jailer, and he was alone in the jail, with the exception of my wife and small son, a lad of some 10 years of age at the time. When he heard of the formation of the mob he calmly went about preparing for eventualities.

"Holly strapped two .45 Colts about his waist, took up a Winchester rifle bit off a fresh chew of tobacco and sat down on the jail porch.

"From the jail porch ran a walk to the jail yard gate, a distance of about sixty feet, and the gate opened out on a narrow street or alley connecting with the town square about 200 yards away. A ten-foot brick wall ran entirely around the jail.

Presently the mob, about 300 stong, came surging into the alley from the square, headed by a notorious county bully and so-called bad man, who always carried two guns. It was not against the law at that time to bear pistols, if they were not concealed.

"The mob reached the gate and it was thrown open. We never kept it locked. As the mob leader entered the yard Holly lifted his rifle to his shoulder and in even, conversational tones remarked

Why I am Against The Mob Law

(By J. E. Mason)

It defeats the end of justice. It brutalizes the citizenry. It has no sense of honor.

It stimulates terror and arms the vicious. The victim is the plaything of passion and horror. It is the manifestation of unleashed brutality. It breeds strife, anarchy, heresey, infidelism and destruction.

It cultivates a thirst for human blood. It undermines the plan of government. It places a premium on murder, arson, theft and rape. It makes a hero of the vicious guilty rat, a leader of the low brow and social scum.

It is an incubator of racial murder and an institute of hell.

It feeds the youth on the social foam of filth and crime.

It has no eyes of justice or ears of mercy.

Babe Alexander of Nicodemus, Miss Pearl Wisner, Miss Ina B. Allen, Mr. Theo Karuthers, Miss Myrtle Graves, Mrs. Fannie Evans, Miss Ruby Brown, Miss Walker and Mrs. Smith.

Miss Quinnie Walker and Mrs. Bertha Smith had as their dinner guests Sunday at 626 Fillmore Street: Miss Lucille Robinson anl Mr. Roland Brown of St Joseph, Mo. Mr. Roy Brown of Kansas City, Kansas, Mr.

LYNCHERS GO FREE--- SUNDAY GOLFERS ARE ARRESTED IN S. C.

The arrest of fourteen golfers in South Carolina last week for the violation of an ancient law of that state, brought forth the following comment in the Baltimore Evening Sun:

"Golfers, 14; Lynchers, 0," remarks:

"How many golfers will have to be arrested in order to divert people's attention from the fact that no lynchers have been arrested, only the future can decide. But the Governor of South Carolina is resolute. He is determined to continue having golfers arrested, and if he clings to his course long enough, perhaps he will eventually distract attention from the fact that the Aiken lynching is unavenged."

Commenting on this, The Philadelphia Record has the following to say:

"But the Baltimore Evening Sun does not believe this; and neither do we. It is much more likely, as the Sun points out, that "every additional golfer arrested will simply make more conspicuous the fact that in South Carolina is appears to be much safer it murder Negroes than to play golf on Sundays."

Father Triplet Lynched Moves Away

Sam Lowman Freed From Prison at Aiken, Goes To Philadelphia

New York, March 4—Sam Lowman, father of Demon and Bertha Lowman and uncle of Clarence Lowman, the three Negroes lynched last October by a mob which took them from the Aiken County jail, has been freed from prison and has gone to Philadelphia to live with the four surviving members of his family.

The N. A. A. C. P. has received from N. J. Frederick, the colored lawyer who defended the Lowmans, a clipping from the Columbia Record of February 24, telling something of Sam Lowman's story. The local newspaper states that Mr Lowman, though a hard working, industrious man leaves Aiken without a cent, his home having been ransacked. Says the Columbia Record:

"Clean as my hand", said Lowman, and a big lump moved up and down in his throat and tears were on his lashes; "All my property gone; and my son and daughter and nephew lynched."

Lowman said he had never been in trouble before in his life. He never drank; he worked hard; he was a God-fearing man. For two years he had lived in Aiken County, and they were bad farm years, but he averaged eighteen bales of cotton a year, as a tenant farmer.

Sam Lowman was given two years in jail because two quart bottles containing a little liquor were found in the yard of his home after the shooting of his wife, and the death of the sheriff. The account continues:

His attorney says it was probably a record sentence for such a case. Lowman stated today that he did not bury that liquor and liquor was never kept his house.

Lowman served 17 months on the Aiken county chain gang and the last three months in the state penetentiary, being brought here for safe keeping after the lynching of the three members of his family.

The Columbia Record states that the guard on the chaingang did not dare to make Lowman a "trusty," although he deserved it, for fear of the mobbists in Horse Creek Valley.

Lowman said he was in the Aiken jail the night of the lynching. He heard the mob come to the jail door, and heard the door open and the many feet pass through. He heard the men climb the steps and heard the cries of his daughter when her brother was taken out, the girl pleading that they not kill him. Tears came into his eyes. "It's pretty hard; it's awful to think that one man could treat another so bad, just because he had the upper hand."

Lowman had one son in France, one in service in America. The two sons and two daughters live in Philadelphia, and he proposes to go to them. He has a good face and his whole bearing bears out his statement that he had always tried to live a good life. Because he made a good prisoner, Lowman got 72 days clemency, the usual ten per cent. of time given in cases of exemplary behavior.

The Purging Of Of Aiken

The Columbia (S. C.) Record

The friends of law and righteousness in Aiken County are no doubt bubbling over with hosannas today. For, be it known of all men, four non-voting, non-officeholding, non-political members of the winter tourist colony who committed the unpardonable sin of playing golf there on Sunday, were duly arrested Monday, and we assume they were in this morning about the hour this editorial is being set up by the so-called intelligent compositor. They were arrested on warrants sworn out by Sheriff Nollie Robinson, who, we recall, shot two window panes out of the kitchen of the jail in Aiken to protest against the removal of the Lowmans last October.

We understand, likewise, so fervent now is the zeal for law enforcemen in Aiken, that newsboys were not permitted to sell newspapers on the streets on Sunday.

The dispatches do not indicate that Sheriff Robinson saw the iniquitous golfers who desecrated the Sabbath of Aiken County. He probably swore out the warrants on "information and belief," and in so doing he proved that he was alive and responsive to the call of duty.

In the meantime, twenty-nine red-handed lynchers (whose names are reputed to be well known) are still at large, and no warrants have been sworn out for them, though their wholesale crime was committed five months ago. But there is this distinction, which should be remembered by any who may be disposed to cavil. They did not lynch the Lowmans on Sunday, and therefore the laws against bear-baiting, bull-baiting, interludes, and ther sports and pastimes, including the ancient and honored pastime of lynching "Niggers", were not violated.

ANTI-LYNCHING CHURCH APPEAL

"Salem Day Sunday" Observance June 19th To Call For Abolition of Mob Murder

Boston, Mass., June 8—As a fitting public finale to the nation-wide public celebration on June 17th "Salem Peace Day" in honor of Peter Salem, Salem Poor and other Colored soldiers at the Battle of Bunker Hill way back in 1775, with resolutions to be adopted and sent to President Coolidge for the anti-lynching bill and against federal segregation, the National Equal Rights League has just issued an appeal to all race pastors to make June 19th a "Salem Day Sunday" by special prayers for deliverance and church resolutions of appeal to nation and government for an end to lynching and segregation to be signed by church officers and sent to President Coolidge and given to the press.

This first part of this nation-wide stroke against these two major evils will begin and also end, according to the League's request with official resolutions to the President by fraternal lodges at their most convenient meeting in June before or after the 17th.

With the civic observances, the one in Boston to cover two days—with the church and lodge resolutions and those by other bodies, a strong bombardment can be made of the White House and a good blow struck. The League, which supplies historical leaflets postpaid from 9 Cornhill for six cents in stamps, also asks that copies of all resolutions with addresses of official and promoters of celebrations be sent to it to be later carried to the White House in bulk as a united race protest and appeal.

Spirit of The Press

The Lynching Wave Strikes America

From The Dallas Express

What has assumed the proportions of a lynching wave now is sweeping America and the news reports of each succeeding day bring stories of brutalities on Negroes by mobs of every section of the South and border states. Arkansas started the movement and Mississippi, Missouri and Louisiana took it up. In a single day two such mob murders occured and in each case the victims were Negroes. Florida had such an attempt to its credit but the vigilance of jailers and the determination of a sheriff prevented the carying out of the lynching purpose. The accused in this case was a white man. Whether the same actions would have characterized the sheriff had he been a Negro cannot be said.

"Taking the law into their own hands" is the statement generally made in chronicling the stories of such happenings. But there is no thoughtful person of any sort in these United States who pays the slightest attention to the thing implied in such a statement. There is no law of the mob but the law of murder and brutality. There can be nothing like a semblance of justice in the actions of such a murderous group. What does the future hold for a nation which is so thoughtless of its permanence? Certainly we are no prophets, but there can be no doubt but that, to prophesy the ultimate dissolution legal procedure and the substitution of the will of those who can "take the law into their own hands," is not far fetched.

A WHITE WOMAN SPEAKS

(By Lucia Trent)

(Lines written concerning an actual incident, where a Negro, who had been acquitted by the court, was taken by the mob and shot to death.

So the law's agents left you to the throng
You, whom the court found innocent of wrong;
You, who could only stare and only sob;
They gave you over to that bawling mob,
Who shot at you like bullies from the back,
Because—poor devil—yes, your skin was black!
I do not pity you—, my friend, who go
To sudden solitude of those who know
Only the ancient silences of death,
Who hear no more the feet of rain, the breath
Of low waves folding on the April seas,
But, O! deep in my heart I pity these
Poor human blunderers who have tonight
Made me, God knows, ashamed of being white!

—In June Opportunity

(This was written before the Louisville, Mississippi outrage. We wonder what "good white folks think now?

Lynchings - 1927
Discussions.

Negro Press, (Southern)

2424

ARKANSAS ENTRY SEEKS TITULAR HONORS!

The Arkansas members of Judge Lynch's loop made a determined effort last week to assume the leadership in that league's race for the 1927 gonfalon, and thus reverted to a species of savagery and barbarism which reads like a page from the history of some heathenish and cannibalistic tribe or race.

Accused of an attack upon a white woman and her daughter, a brutal and horrible crime, but one for which the criminal could have easily been handled and punished through orderly processes of law enforcement, a colored man was murdered by a mob of hungry and howling hoodlums of Little Rock—the capital of the state—and then his lifeless body was dragged about the streets of the city and later burned on a funeral pyre in the most popular downtown Negro business section.

Not being satisfied with the life of one American citizen without due process of law, and being aided and abetted by peace officers, according to newspaper reports, the exponents of mobocratic circuit ran amuck, seeking and threatening all members of the colored race who came in their wake, and indulging in a saturnalia of savagery that beggars description.

In a civilized country such as America professes and essays to be, with the wheels of machinery in the hands of the dominant (white) race, there is no earthly need or reason for mob-violence of any sort, and every mobocratic demonstration such as the Little Rock orgy shows just how far removed certain members of the "superior race" are from the dark age of savagery, barbarism and anarchy.

The taking of a human life by a mob is more than murder; it is anarchy—rebellion against and an overthrow of the law and constituted authority, and a trampling, under profane and criminal feet, of the sacred and time-honored guarantees and warranties as provided in the state and national constitutions.

The Informer does not condone crime, whether committed by black man or white man, for color of the skin should never be taken into consideration when any violation of the law has been perpetrated; but this paper knows that neither this country, nor any other country, can long survive part democratic, part mobocratic and part "hellocratic"; and either the American mob must be put out of commission or this republic will go out of commission.

Since the individual states seem helpless and impotent before the cringing and cowardly mobs; since it is apparent that sheriffs, constables and other peace officers find it convenient to absent themselves when mobs are committing their depredations or they (said peace officers) wink and nod assent at such heathenish and hellish horrors, unless the federal government does step in and seek to protect the lives of American citizens from the players in Judge Lynch's loop, the future of this country is indeed dark and dismal.

However, there is one encouraging feature about the Little Rock disorder and civil insurrection and that is the attitude taken by the leading white citizens of that city, who have demanded the punishment of all persons responsible for the reign of terror and bitterly denounced and vehemently criticised the peace officers and mayor for their seeming indifference and sympathy with the mob, in that no effort was made by the sworn upholders and defenders of law and order to prevent the anarchists' atrocities and temporary overthrow of constituted authority.

Oregon Club Women Advocate Federal Handling Of Lynchers

White Women's Clubs of Oregon Presented With Lynching Resolutions.

Bend, Ore., June 13.—(Pacific Coast News Bureau)—The Oregon Federation of Women's clubs (white) at their recent annual meeting in this city, which over 200 delegates attended, were presented with resolutions drafted by Mrs. E. D. Cannady, noted social worker and managing editor of the Portland Advocate, in which the plea was made to make lynching a federal crime.

The resolutions were drafted for the N. A. A. C. P. of which Mrs. Cannady is the northern organizer, are as follows:

"WHEREAS, some twelve to fifteen millions of American citizens, entitled everywhere in the country by the express provisions of the Constitution to every right that any citizen has, are in practice denied the primal right of human beings—those rights which in the Declaration of Independence are called "inalienable'; and

"WHEREAS, since 1889 three thousand, five hundred and twenty-three persons, including sixty-four women, are known to have been lynched and burned at the stake in the United States, (and it cannot be doubted that many more were killed by mobs of which no record exists) in 1921, sixty-four were lynched, of whom four were burned at the stake, and in 1926, thirty-eight were lynched; and

"WHEREAS, less than one-fifth of the colored men done to death by lynching mobs were even accused of 'the usual crime' against white womanhood, (in New York county, which is only a part of New York City) in the year 1917, there were 37 persons indicted for rape in the first degree; that is, in just a part of New York City 9 more persons were inlictel for rape in the first degree than there were Negroes lynched on the charge of rape throughout the entire United States in a five year period. Not one of the 37 persons indicted was a Negro. The congressional commission on immigration made a study of crime in the United States in 1921; it investigated 2262 cases in New York court of sessions, and found that the percentage of rape was lower for the Negro than for the foreign or native-born whites. The actual figures were: The foreign-born whites, 1.8; native-born whites, .8; and for Negroes, .5; and

"WHEREAS, for the most part these lynchings are witnessed by men, women and children (an average mob numbers 500), of all ages, the effect of which is highly demoralizing, especially to the youth. The eminent psychiatrist, Dr. A. A. Brill, lecturer at New York University, has declared: 'No one can take part in a lynching or witness it and remain thereafter a normal human being'; and

"WHEREAS, lynching has a demoralizing effect upon organized government, the mob spirit threatens to undermine organizel courts; and

"WHEREAS, the Negro has been called upon in every war in which our country has engaged to fight, and has responded to every call—400,000 strong during the great World war; and

"WHEREAS, on Saturday, in the year of our Lord, 1927, in the state of Mississippi, a Negro citizen was lynched; and

"WHEREAS, since we, the Oregon Federation of Women's clubs, have in convention assembled, on Monday, May 23rd, in Braggadocia, Missouri, the Associated Press tells us of a lynching of another Negro citizen who was strung up by the hands to a temporary scaffold in the town square and his body riddled with bullets'; (this while a Negro man in the flooded area of Louisiana rescued and succored for three days 25 white families), and

"WHEREAS, the state and local authorities throughout the United States have failed utterly to cope with the issue of lynching, except in rare instances, (not 50 lynchers have been convicted for any offense whatever and not 25 have been indicted for murder in the first degree during the past 38 years) and the local machinery fails to function in stamping out this evil."

The Oregon Federation of Women's Clubs passed the resolutions on Thursday, May 26th.

THE REAL SPIRIT OF MISSISSIPPI SHOWS ITSELF

LAST WEEK MISSISSIPPI STAGED a regular lynching orgy. It succeeded in burning two men alive and almost succeeded in getting to a third but the appearance of troops sent by the governor prevented it. But even at that, the criticism which has since been levelled at the governor has been sufficient to cause him to issue a statement including words to the effect that he had done his sworn duty and only that "despite what ever personal feelings and desires" he may have had, indicating in our opinion, that had his personal desires been allowed sway, the mob might have had the victim.

Of course it is better that his sworn duty caused him to speedily heed the demand for the troops in Vicksburg and that that city at least was saved from the disgrace of another lynching. The record of that state is now already bloody enough and the hearts of its citizens, the masses of them, already savage enough, as is amply proven by the hundreds of cases of lynching which are contained in its history. But the general spirit in regard to lunching which is so clearly shown in this instance seems worthy of more than passing attention.

It will be remembered that two years ago, the state of Mississippi, through its leading lawyers, preachers and clubwomen sent out to the world a pamphlet containing signed statements to the effect that the desire of that state was to obliterate out its lynching record by making one during the coming years which would contain no such blots. It attracted widespread attention and elicited much comment. But at that time The Express took the position that while the spirit of the better thinking white people of the state was in accordh with the efforts of members of bo races who were attempting to eradicate the evil, the mind of the general mass of citizens of that state had become so hardened to crime and the opinion that Negroes had no rights which a more fortunate and powerful race was bound to respect, had become so fixed, that it would take many years and much education by due process of law to effect the much desired education by due process of law to effect this statement. The better element of white people in Mississippi desire the stopping and complete abolition of lynching. The Express is convinced that they do. But so long has the mind of the mob been pandered to; so long has it happened that the rights of a powerless race have been trampled upon, that it now seems well night impossible to stem the tide of prejudice and to curb the rule of the mob. It must be powerful when even the governor must make half an apology for doing his sworn duty and when it is realized that the burning of human beings in the broad day light is done by "persons unknown" though the mob is literally composed of thousands. These are things which show the real spirit which controls Mississippi. To thinkers, the fact that the will of the mob so easily overrides the dictates of the more intelligent individuals who stand at the head of affairs in that state, should argue that the task which faces America in the eradication of the lynching evil and in the protection of its very fundamental virtures is by no means an easy one and that half measures will by no means suffice. And it is by no means hard to visualize an America in the very near future which will be famous the world over and unique among the nations of modern times for the savagery which its citizens commit with impunity almost daily. Such a distinction would by no means be enviable, but surely and not slowly, the trend of the times seems in that direction.

LITTLE ROCK LYNCHING AND NEGRO LEADERS

It will require some earnest praying to forgive those leading Negroes Little Rock for leaving town when they were needed for council in an emergency like that which attended the lynching of Carter.

They had prospered because their weaker brethren had given them support. They could not have prospered otherwise. They owed them, at least, a stand until danger threatened them as individuals. Our churches and secret orders amount to nothing if they cannot return something to those who build and make them strong in the community, and the only thing that they can give the community is leadership.

The leadership that takes to high timber when danger threatens is worse than none at all.

We cannot ask our people to support cowards. We can not expect the white people who stand for law and order to respect cowards. We can not expect God or any one else to use a coward in a fight for a righteous and just cause.

There is time enough to run when imminent danger threatens one's individual safety and those who practice fighting the battles of the race with their heels, invite an augmented condition that keeps the practice up.

Lynching will not be stopped by appealing lectures, strong editorials or essays on social ethics. They will be stopped when all the people interested in good government and the happiness of society decide to use something more persuasive, whether it be a more drastic means of bringing officers to a sense of their duty under the oath of office or more powder and lead in the protection of those who are victimized by mobs.

We have no brief for Negroes nor any one else committing such crimes as that charged, but we shall forever appeal for the process of the law in their punishment as a means of safety and protection for those law abiding people who innocently suffer untold horrors without the means of escape or redress. Raping the law that is adequate and effective for the punishment of criminals has no advantage in preventing crime, nor any in punishing those that are committed. In view of the adequacy and certainty of the effect of the law it is so much worse than the crimes that it pretends to punish that it decreases respect for the law and undermines the civic morale that might be an effective preventative of crime.

It would be foolish to counsel armed resistance against mobs. We still have faith in the forces that oppose it and hope that these forces will see the urgency of a determined effort to make it impossible. But it is not foolish for one to protect himself by any means at his command. Danger always stalks more heavily among cowards than among strong hearted men. One of the best means of averting danger is to meet it coolly, calmly, determinedly, preparedly.

It is mostly cowards that seek trouble where they expect no opposition on account of their advantage.

ARKANSAS MOB SEEKS ANOTHER VICTIM

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., June 2.—(ANP) The lynching epidemic which had its genesis when a mob sought to lynch Lonnie Dixon, accused of murdering a white girl, broke out anew Wednesday when a mob of some 200 men seized the rifles with which they snuffed out the life of John Carter and terrorized Negroes throughout the city a few weeks ago, searched every probably hiding place for an unknown Negro who was supposed to have struck down and attempted to assault a white woman Tuesday afternoon.

The woman reported that a Negro had attacked her while she was picking flowers in a strip of woods near her home Tuesday afternoon. As the report was circulated, the thirst for blood grew more acute and the mob formed for the purpose of "aiding the officers in their search." Bloodhounds were brought from Hot Springs but the rains during the evening rendered them useless. The human blood-hounds, however, took up the scent but like their canine brothers had to give up the task.

The officers, according to reports were inclined to doubt th ewoman's story saying she had given more than one version of the affair. But it was further reported that a man answering the description had been arrested but the officers were afraid to take the prisoner before the woman for positive identification, fearing mob violence.

Thus another chapter is being writte nin Iittle Rock's "reign of terror" which has resulted in the lynching of one Negro, the driving away of others and alleged plans of a wholesale exodus of Negroes from the city.

ANTI-LYNCH CHURCH APPEAL

—o—

"Salem Day Sunday" Observance June 19th To Call For Abolition of Mob Murder

BOSTON, Mass., June 9—As a fitting public finale to the nation-wide public celebrations on June 17th of "Salem Race Day,, in honor of Peter Salem, Salem Poor and the other Colored soldiers at the Battle of Bunker Hill way back in 1775, with rsolutios to be adopted and sent to president Coolidge for the anti-lynching bill and against federal segregation the National Equal Rights League has just issued an appeal to all race pastors to make June 19th a "Salem Day Sunday" by special prayers for deliverance and church reesolutions of appeal to nation and government for an end t olynching and segregation to be signed by church officers and sent to President Coolidge and given to the press.

The first part of this nation-wide stroke against these two major evils will begin and also end, according to the League's request wtih official resolutions to the President by fraternal lodges at their most convenient meeting in June before or after the 17th.

With the civic observances, the one in Boston, to cover two days with the church and lodge resolutions and those by other bodies, a from 9 Cornhill for six cents in the White House in bulk as a united strong bombardment can be made stamps, also asks that copies of all Trade protest and appeal. of the White House and a good resolutions with addresses of officblow struck. he League, which supals and promoters of celebrations plies historical leaflets / postpaid be sent to it to be later carried to

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A Number of Resolutions Condemnig the Lynching of Negroes in the South

New York, August 6.—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People announces from its office at 69 Fifth Avenue, New York City, that there is a steadily growing expression of sentiment in the south that tends to make lynching a disrepputable sport. More and more the influential agencies of the white South are putting the stamp of their disapproval on lynching and mob violence. This fact can be contrasted with 20 years ago, before the Association began its propaganda and expose of lynching. At that time editors, preachers, politicians and even government officials either condoned or justified lynching. The Association now has in its possession evidence that most southern editors of the larger news-officials, a few politicians and papers, as well as government some preachers, are openly apposing lynching. One of the most horrible and sickening descriptions of a lynching is to be found in a Southern paper,—Picayune, Mississippi, Item for July 8, 1927, under the caption of "I Saw A Lynching," and being the words and personal observations of J. C. Emmerrich, Editor of the McComb City Enterprise. After describing the beastly activities of the mob, the editorial concludes:

"After all the question can be simplified. Is mob law good or bad for our people? Is it a means of advancing justice? Does it actually result in any good Can mob law require anything that legal procedure cannot?

"The truth of the matter is the mob law is injurious to the best interests of all our people, even of the members of the families, the sacredness of which may have been intruded upon. And for these reasons it should be abolished.

"I have seen a mob in action. That's why I am so bitterly opposed to mob law."

The white women of the south whose protection was used as an excuse for lynching until the association analyzed the facts and showed that attacks upon women supply the excuse for only a very small percentage of the lynchings,—these women are now themselves outspoken against the barbarity of lynch law. The Greenville, Mississippi, Times, thus commnets on the action of the white woman of that stte.

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On July 3rd, according to the New Orleans Picayune, Medals were given to the officers who prevented a mob from lynching a Negro. It is significant that the exercises were participated in by a member of the state legislature, who presented the medals, and by a preacher and other leaders and government officers. The Picayune says:

"Sheriff U. T. Downs and Jailer W. G. Penny, of Rapides Parish, were presented with medals here today by the Southern Committee of Interracial Co-Operation for their efforts in preventing the lynching of a negro prisoner a year ago.

"The award was made at Emmanuel Baptist Church after the pastor, Rev. Carl Devans, had delivered a sermon on Christianity and the law."

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The Concord North Carolina Tribune commenting on the frequent excuse that it would be too expessive to prosecute the mob quotes Judge Sinclair as saying:

"The question of expense does not bother me."

Then the Tribune goes on to say:

"Judge Sinclair is eteranlly right. The matter of costs should not worry Wake County. They should be welcomed by every citizen and taxpayer, whatever they may amount to. They are, in fact, about the most necessary expense the county has faced in years. The real question in this case of flogging is what the county will pay in future trouble, in encouraged lawless, in the exercise of mob spirit, if for reasons of lethargy or mistaken economy it fails to expend every bit of energy and intelligence at its command in spotting with the searchlight a gang of the most dangerous criminals who ever brought the county itself into disrepute"

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"The Georgia legislature, in session now,, could render the state no greater service than by enacting laws that designated flogging or other outrages by hooded and masked men a felony with a mandatory long-time sentence at hard labor.

"It is to the everlasting credit of the state that for a year and a half its head has been held high because of the action of its courts in dealing with lynchings. The example set by Coffee County in dealing with the lyncher should be followed by ever yother county—and the state at large—in dealing with floggers and other such criminals."

A writer in the Montgomery Alabama, Advertiser while stating that during the last forty years he had heard no less than 1,000 men excuse lynching, expresses himself in a long article condemning lynching as follows:

"Brought down to brass tacks, the only preventive for mob lynchings is an educated, stern public sentiment against them—a sen- of sentiment with respect to the on the consciousness of the most callous man in the community that every mobber should be hunted down like a wildcat and punished as surely as any other blood smeared criminal."

The Starkville, Mississippi News shows a complete reversal of sentiment wit hrespect to the duty of the law to protect even criminals when it says:

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"A masked gang fell upon a Negro farmer in Jefferson County, beat him unmercifully and frightened him into selling his farm for $80. The terrorized man after hastfly selling his possessions fled the community.

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It is perfectly outrageous that a Negro or any other person should be bullied and frightened into sacrificing the fruits of a lifetime of toil in order to save his life or protect his body from further abuse. No doubt the beasts who attacked this Negro will profit by his financial loss. At least there is ground for this unpleasant suspicion.

"How long, O, Lord, how long?"

Similar condemnations of lynching will be found in the Hattiesburg, Mississippi, American; in the Belzoni, Mississippi, Banner; in the Bowling Green, Kentucky, Journal; Daytona Beach, Florida, Journal; the Memphis, Tenn., Commercial Appeal and other papers. The journal of Bowling Green, Kentucky, prints a release from the International News Service telling that the Governors of North Carolina have at least got together on something else besides pre-Volstead discussions and have decided that there must be a longer time still between lynchings, in fact that lynching must be done away with altogether in the Carolinas.

The Association is glad to report this progress of sentiment in the south against lynching.

SAYS NEW SOUTH IN MAKING

Predicts That Coming Of Industry Will Usher It In

FLAYS MOB HYSTERIA

Special to the Journal and Guide

Indianapolis, June 29.—Declaring that a new South has come into being directed largely by businessmen, many of whom are turning to the Republican party, Dr. Will W. Alexander, of Atlanta, Director of the Commission on Interracial Relations, addressed the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in its 18th annual conference last week. He declared:

"The new leaders of industry in the South are hardly conscious of the race question at all", said Dr. Alexander. "To them it is a labor question and an industrial question. They are preoccupied, as the rest of the nation is in making money. With them the hot spot in their thinking is neither the race problem, politics, or fundamentalism; it is BUSINESS. They do not get excited over the race problem except as it might affect industry. They are willing to listen with minds open and go at least as far as the best interests of industry demand.

"The coming of industry and the new economic background is slowly working a change in the political philosophy of the South. Thousands of businessmen are Republican, nationally, and are yielding to the arguments that make the business section of this country favorable to the Republican Party. They are no longer responding to the old slogans in local politics. As a rule they are indifferent to local politics but ultimately this indifference must give way to an intelligent interest based upon what they conceive to be good business policy. This means a profound change in the politics of the South.

Colleges Studying Race Relations.

"The most obvious change which is taking place in the South with relation to the race problem is the intelligent interest of many college teachers, college students and the thoughtful people generally. In the old days there was much talk but little study. In nearly 100 colleges courses of study on various phases of the race problem are now in the regular curriculum. Thousands of students are working and writing on these themes and an exhaustive examination of these papers from all parts of the South reveal that they are thoughtful, honest and liberal.

"The nation must find some way to deal with the mob and mob violence. The fight is discouraging. Aiken was slipping back on part of South Carolina. The guiltiest States are now Mississippi and Florida where there is no effective opposition to mob violence and Arkansas where there is very little. These States have been the least influenced by the new economic and industrial development. They have particularly large populations of the poor white type. They have many isolated communities. Lynching must be looked upon by the whole nation as so horrible that these indifferent and backward States shall be forced to put an end to it.

"In closing may I say that I am not especially interested in Negroes or the race problem. Something very much larger than this is involved in this situation. It is a question of civilization. Can human beings be civilized and can they learn to meet the situations that they confront by civilized methods and a civilized spirit? That is the great question. The experiment of the human race in civilization is very interesting and important. The outcome of the democratic movement which gave birth to this nation is an important aspect of the experiments in civilization. Twelve million American Negroes and their future are a test to the outcome of this experiment in democracy and free institutions.

Able Lawyers Present Case Of Porters

Claim Policy Of Pullman Co. Discharging Experienced Men Injures Service To The Public

Samuel Untermyer and other distinguished Lawyers make representation to the Pullman Company in behalf of discharged Porters. Frank P. Wash, Amos Pinchot, Henry T. Hunt, and Arthur Garfield Hays join with him in letter to President [illegible] Pullman Company. The Letter was as follows:

Dear Sir:

The undersigned are a special committee chosen by the Citizens Committee of One Hundred organized to give support and counsel to the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters. We have been advised by the officers of the Brotherhood that the management of the Pullman Company appears to have adopted a policy of discharging a number of its most efficient porters affiliated with the Brotherhood in order to prevent the porters from establishing a union controlled by them and not by the Company.

If such a policy has been adopted, we wish to protest against it. In our opinion, it will injure the quality of the service your Company renders to the traveling public. The avenue to high morale and better service is co-operation with legitimate desires such as the formation of a union of their own and not frustrated by fear. Furthermore, the Pullman Company cannot afford to establish the fact that it is willing to deal collectively with its white employees, and unwilling to so deal with another group equally qualified for organization, who happens to be of the Negro race. Such a position is in conflict with the law of the land as well as contrary to enlightened public opinion.

The Watson-Parker Bill which created the United States Mediation Board before which the dispute between the Pullman Company and the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters is now pending, gives the right of self-organization to your employees. Your Company was, we understand, a party to the making of that law. The policy we protest is bad faith on your part in view of your participation in the formation of this law

We have the names and records of the men who have been discharged and will submit this material to you if you tell us you will investigate what may be unauthorized actions by your subordinates.

May we have a reply at your very earliest convenience.

THE SOUTH UTTERS A HOPEFUL SOUND IN CONDEMNATION OF MOB VIOLENCE

Jackson, Miss., June 25th. Stirred by recent outbreaks of mob violence in this state, a group of Mississippi's most prominent women, meeting here last week, drew up and gave to the press a vigorous condemnation of lynching, declaring that "as Southern women we hold that no circumstances can ever justify mob action and that in no instance is it an exhibition of chilvaric consideration for the honor of womanhood." The Governor was commended for his efforts to suppress mob violence, sheriffs were urged to meet with force any attempts upon their prisoners, and grand juries and courts were called upon for earnest efforts to bring recent lynchers to justice. The statement in full was a sfollows:

"We place ourselves on record as unalterably opposed to mob murder. The barbaric practice of lynching arouses unchristian passions, violates the sovereignty of our state, brings Mississippi into disrepute in the eyes of the world, and brutalizes all those who come within its evil influence.

"As southern women we hold that no circumstances can ever justify mob action and that in no instance is it an exhibition of chilvaric consideration for the honor of womanhood.

"We commend our governor for calling out troups to suppress mob activities, urge all sheriffs to meet attempts on their jails with force, and call upon grand juries and officers of the law to prosecute vigorously the lynchers in Mississippi who have unlawfully slaughtered six men within the past two months."

The signers were Mrs. Theodore D. Bratton, wife of the Bishop of Mississippi; Miss Susie V. Powell, president of the State Federation of Women's Clubs; Mrs. Myrtle G. Hicks, Vice President of the Mississippi Synodical; Mrs. C. H. Alexander, active worker in various organizations; Mrs. D. G. McLaurin, President of the Mississippi Synodical; Mrs. W. W. Epperson, President of the Jackson Federation of Missionary Societies; Mrs. Edgar Goodwill, Social Service Superintendent of the Mississippi Conference; Mrs. David M. Key, wife of President Key, of Millsaps College; Miss Paralee McLester, Secretary of Jackson Y. W. C. A.; Mrs. Ivy G. Hill, Mrs. John Bell Hood, Mrs. J. T. Calhoun, Miss Mamie J. Chandler and Mrs. C. A. McCurdy.

WOMEN OF MISS. CONDEMN REIGN OF MOB VIOLENCE

Prominent White Women Draw Up Vigorous Condemnation of Lynching—Governor Commended for Calling Out Troops

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7-7-27

Meeting here last week in annual session, the Mississippi Woman's Committee on Race Relations pledged themselves to the most progressive program of interracial justice ever adopted by any group in this state. Beginning with a terrific broadside against lynching and mob violence, they promised to seek better school advantages for the colored people of the state, offered their co-operation to the Negro club women in their efforts for a home for delinquent boys, and then gave proof of their sincerity by inviting the Negro women of the state to membership on their committee. Among the specific improvements in school conditions to which they pledged themselves were better facilities for teacher training, better school buildings, and a more equitable distribution of school funds.

Mrs. David M. Key, wife of the president of Millsaps College, was elected president of the state committee, which includes a score of the most prominent women in Mississippi, all of them leaders in one or more of the great religious or civic groups. The meeting was convened by Mrs. Maud P. Henderson, of the Commission on Interracial Co-operation, who reports a much more active interest in the movement than was apparent in earlier metings.—Press Service Commission on Interracial Co-operation.

GOD IS NOT DEAD BUT WORKING

LYNCHERS "LOSING CASTE" IN THE SOUTH

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When the Tides Meet

Southern Students Say:

"WHEREAS, The encouraging decline in lynching which has marked recent years suffered a serious relapse in 1926; and,

"WHEREAS, There have occurred in recent months many instances of this fearful crime, particularly in the States of Mississippi and Arkansas; and,

"WHEREAS, We, the Southern Regional Council of Student Y. M. C. A.'s, assembled at Blue Ridge, N. C., believe we voice the sentiment of the great mass of Southern people in condemning all such atrocious crime; and,

"WHEREAS, We have heard of these tragic occurrences with keen regret, and believe that they are unjustifiable from any standpoint; therefore, be it

"*Resolved*, That we earnestly hope that the public officials and the Christian citizenship of our country will use every means of upholding the law and cultivating public sentiment against such atrocities."

Similar resolutions were adopted by the Y. W. C. A. Student Conference meeting at the same place during the preceding week. The students in attendance at these two conferences represent practically all the colleges of the Southeastern region.

Southern Women Say:

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Southern Vigilantes Say:

We believe in the All-Wise, Unfailing Justice of God.

We believe first, last, and always in the supremacy of the white race.

No compromise on this question.

We believe that white men and women should always be given preference in all things.

We believe in the full protection of our womanhood.

We believe our mothers, wives, daughters and sisters should be safe alone anywhere, any time. We will make it so.

We will protect and defend them with the last drop of our blood.

The night will never be too dark or stormy for a VIGILANTE to do his duty.

American womanhood will always honor, revere and welcome I. R. A. VIGILANTES.

Cowards, traitors, lawbreakers, weak-backed citizens and such have no place in our ranks.

Are you a real, red-blooded He American? If so, we need you and you need us.

We stand "one for all" and "all for one."

We believe in swift and sure punishment for assaulters and rapists.

Complete and absolute secrecy of membership.

You will never know your neighbor to your right or to your left.

A non-political organization, but your vote will remove lax peace officers and grafters.

Men who believe in action—men who will be ready to "go" at the bugle call.

Membership limited. Quality rather than quantity.

This organization is made up of men of "Guts." Can you qualify?

No pussy-footers, weaklings, grafters or politicians will be accepted

Gov. Richards Praised For Stand Against Mobs

Columbia, S. C., July 15.—(By the Associated Negro Press.)—South Carolinians, white and black, are praising Governor Richards for the determined stand against lynching which he has taken, in order to safeguard the state from further humiliation resulting from mob violence.

Inheriting a lynching investigation, which was a fluke, Gov. Richards has sought at all times to prevent a further occurrence of mob violence. Upon entering office, he declared that the state had been disgraced by the Aiken lynching, which was described as the most atrocious ever carried out in the state, and pledged himself to do everything to prevent mob violence during his administration.

Determined to Uphold Law

The Governor has faced many trying situations under which mob violence seemed almost impossible to prevent. Each time he has arisen to the occasion and has done his utmost to prevent a lynching. Conditions reached a climax last week when six Negroes were arrested, charged with murdering a white officer of the law. Lynching was discused, and it apparently was settled that the six Negroes would follow the fate of the Lowmans at Aiken.

While the mobbists were bent upon lynching the six prisoners, the Governor was equally determined that the Negroes would be protected. He issued a proclamation to the effect that he did not intend to tolerate any mob violence and that the law must take its course. Other Governors have made such statements, but Governor Richards followed up his declaration with action.

When the six prisoners were to be transferred to Beaufort, S. C., for trial, he ordered two units of the National Guard to accompany them and to protect them during the trial. The soldiers, armed with rifles, machine guns and tear gas bombs, guarded the prisoners during the trial and accompanied them back to Columbia, where they were again placed in the state prison.

Send Troops With Posse

The Governor also endeavors to safeguard the lives of fugitives who are being sought by posses. Down in York when the vicinity was being scoured in quest of a Negro youth alleged to have raped a white woman, and another charged with murdering an aged white woman, feeling was high, and if either had been caught he would have in all probability been lynched. Realizing this, Governor Richards immediately dispatched troops to the York area with orders to protect the men, if captured, at all costs. The soldiers went, and in neither case did a lynching occur.

Governor Richards is sparing no expense to keep the slate of the state free of lynching. Each time the militia is called out it means added expense, but the Governor feels that a life is worth the money spent, and the sanctity of the law must be protected.

Citizens are pointing out that lynching would soon be abolished in the South if other Southern Governors were as courageous as the chief executive of South Carolina. His efforts are appreciated by all law-abiding citizens and those who love the state in which they live. "Give us more Richards" is the cry of the South, and the duty falls upon the voters to place such men into office.

Lynchings - 1927.
Discussion.

Negro Press, (Southern). 2427

Governor Richards Stands Endorsed On Carolina Lynching

Atlanta, Jan. 30—A resolution expressing "keen appreciation of the strong statement" of Governor John C. Richards, of South Carolina, relative to the Aiken lynching in that state recently was passed by the executive committee of the commission of inter-racial co-operation here today.

The committee, in session today and yesterday, gave out the following resolution:

"We the executive committee of the southern commission of inter-racial co-operation note with keen appreciation the strong statement of Governor John C. Richards, of South Carolina, relative to the Aiken lynching and particularly the governor's expressed determination to bring the lynchers to justice, if possible. Further.

"We call upon the people of South Carolina to support Governor Richard to the full in this laudable purpose. We would point out also the fact that though thirty lynchers were reported for 1926, in only one so far have any convictions been secured, while in most of them not even an arrest has been made. Such conditions constitute a grave indictment of our legal processes and of our Christian profession which we as a people cannot afford longer to endure.

"We therefore appeal to the justice, the chivalry and the conscience of America and particularly of our own Southland, to put an end to these conditions once for all.

"Lynchings may sometimes be the acts of small and irresponsible groups, but the persistent failure to apprehend and convict the perpetrators lays the guilt upon us all."

Signed:

"Dr. M. Ashby Jones, St. Louis; Dr. Edwin Mims, Nashville, Tenn.; Dr. Joseph Morse, Columbia, S. C.; Dr. C. B. Wilmer, Sewannee; Tenn.; Dr. Plato Durham, Atlanta; E. Marvin Underwood, Atlanta; Walter B. Hill, Atlanta; R. H. King, Atlanta; Dr. John Hope, Atlanta; W. W. Alexander, Atlanta."

DECLARES LYNCHERS ARE ALL COWARDLY

An Old-Time Sheriff Asserts Courage of Officials Will End Flouting of Law

DEPUTY COWED 300 MEN

Southern Mob Seeking Lives of Negroes Quailed Before Rifle of Lone Jailer.

(From New York Times)

An old-time Southern Sheriff, long ago retired to spend the remainder of his life in the home of a son who had prospered in business in New York City, was entertaining a group of his cronies at his favorite "hang-out" on the subject of lynching, and in the course of his discussion he advanced what he called "certain and sure" remedy for this blot on American civilization. All that is necessary, according to the venerable former officer of the law, is moral courage on the part of those having in custody persons awaiting trial for crime.

"I stress the term 'moral courage,'" he said, "for most sheriffs are brave men in a physical sense. In all my time I never encountered or heard of but one 'white-livered' Sheriff. The great trouble is, they are elected officials; they depend upon the votes of their fellow-citizens to hold on to their jobs, and that is why they so often adopt the easiest way out of a clash with mobs—by abjectly giving up the prisoner for whose life the lynchers are clamoring. The next election always looms as a powerful factor in their course of action when the mob demands the keys of the jail.

"The luckless victims control no votes, whereas the mob members might very well hold the balance of power, or at least wield a strong influence at the polls. At any rate, that is about the way the Sheriff reasons the matter. He is absolutely wrong, of course. In the end public sentiment invariably backs the Sheriff who refuses to truckle to the mob, and Sheriffs who have given the lynchers a taste of accurate gunfire in protecting prisoners in their care are re-elected in about ninety-nine cases out of a hundred, if they again are candidates for the office.

Says Lynchers Lack Courage.

"For nearly fifty years I held various law enforcement positions—in the South and Southwest, and for a while lived in Alaska during the gold rush period of thirty years ago. I have seen a number of mobs in action, and I say unhesitatingly that the average lynching mob is the most cowardly lot of 'yellow' jackals that God Almighty ever breathed life into. I have seen them turn tail too often in the face of real courage not to know whereoff I speak.

"Now, let me remark right here that I draw a distinctive line between the old-fashioned Vigilant Committees of the West and the ordinary lynching gangs that infest States where there is every safeguard for law and order. The Vigilants operated where there was no law; they organized as a measure of self-protection; they represented all the law there was at that particular time and place.

"Our modern lynching mobs, on the other hand, operate in defiance of the law; they flout all the safeguards of courts, Sheriffs and police. They are not representative citizens, and they trample on those means a civilized community has set up for itself. They know all this full well, however, buoyed up by liquor they may be on the occasion of the lynching 'bee.' Half or three-quarters drunk, as is the case with most of the lynching mobs, they are never too befuddled not to understand just how far to go in opposition to a determined and fearless Sheriff.

"Make no mistake, they will save their own precious hides. Very rarely did you ever hear of a member of a lynching party ever receiving injuries.

"Just give me one sure-shot rifleman —I would not want but one— and I will stand off from a jail any mob of 500 that ever was mustered to do an unfortunate to death without due process of law. I have seen the thing work out time and time again. The realization of guilt on the part of the mob undermines and saps their courage, if they had any to start with.

One Against Three Hundred.

"Way back in the early '80s, when I was Sheriff of a county in a Southern State, we had in the jail a couple of Negroes who had been arrested for killing a white farmer in a dispute over a division of crops. The men had been in jail several weeks, and while there had been some talk of violence, it had pretty well died out.

"The community, as a whole, was perfectly willing to let the law take its course and accord the prisoners a fair trial. The Court had appointed an able young attorney to defend them, the defendants being without money to employ counsel.

"But one Saturday, while I was in an adjoining county on some official business, a big crowd of farmers and cotton mill operatives gathered in the little city which was our county seat anr began to 'liquor up,' as the saying goes. The more mean whisky they swallowed the more they felt aggrieved that the two men in jail should be permitted to live until they could be tried in accordance with the law.

"They had no particular interest in or affection for the slain man. It was just an ugly, rum-soaking aggregation that worked itself up to a point where nothing would suit them but a hanging. About sundown they were ready for business. The two or three policemen of the town were powerless to disperse the crowd which gathered on what we called the 'swapping ground,' a place where the farmers were wont to congregate to swap horses and talk politics and share 'wigs' from their quart flasks of corn liquor.

Calmly Awaited the Mob.

"Bill Holly—dead these long years, and peace to his ashes, for he was the nerviest man in a tight place it was ever my pleasure to meet— was my deputy and jailer, and he was alone in the jail, with the exception of my wife and small son, a lad of some 10 years of age at the time. When he heard of the formation of the mob he calmly went about preparing for eventualities.

"Holly strapped two .45 Colts about his waist, took up a Winchester rifle bit off a fresh chew of tobacco and sat down on the jail porch.

"From the jail porch ran a walk to the jail yard gate, a distance of about sixty feet, and the gate opened out on a narrow street or alley connecting with the town square about 200 yards away. A ten-foot brick wall ran entirely around the jail.

Presently the mob, about 300 stong, came surging into the alley from the square, headed by a notorious county bully and so-called bad man, who always carried two guns. It was not against the law at that time to bear pistols, if they were not concealed.

"The mob reached the gate and it was thrown open. We never kept it locked. As the mob leader entered the yard Holly lifted his rifle to his shoulder and in even, conversational tones remarked

"'Get on the outside of that gate, Jim Turner, and be damned quick about it, or I'll bore you!"

"Holly had clipped off many turkey heads at 300 feet at Christmas shooting for turkeys. The mob knew it.

"As Turner backed out and closed the gate he demanded:

"'Give us them keys, Holly, unless you want us to fill your carcass full of lead. We aim to string them niggers if we have to string you along with 'em.'

"'All right,' retorted Holly. 'I give you fair warning. The first man that comes through that gate will get a bullet from this rifle between his eyeballs, so help me God! It's our job to do the hanging in this county, and until we git the orders from court ther'll be no hanging of them niggers upstairs or anybody else in this jail."

None Wanted to Be First.

"Of course, the mob could easily have swarmed through the gate and upon the porch and overwhelmed Holly, but in so doing anywhere from two to half a dozen would not have lived to enjoy the evening's enterprise; and so, after some cursing and swearing and desultory shots fired into the air, the gang broke up and went home to sleep it off.

"In due course the Negroes were tried. One was acquitted, he being entirely innocent, and the other proved that he slew under great provocation, fearing for his own life, and he was sent to prison for two years. He is living today, an aged and respected Negro farmer.

"I saw an undersized little miner at Cape Nome in 1893, during the first of the rush to the gold digging there, stand off eight bullies who tried to 'jump' his claim.

"'I'll get one of you, that's sure,' he exclaimed, an with drawn shotgun he stood before his shack and defied

the gang who ordered him to 'beat it.'

"Yes, that is the solution of the lynching problem. Elect men to office who put their solemn oath of duty above political expediency.

"Let your memory do a little backtracking. Did you ever hear of one, single solitary instance of a lynching mob getting its man over the determined resistance of officers of the law? I challenge any one to name such a case."

Y. W. C. A. Student Conference Appeals for Sentiment Against Lynchings

Blue Ridge, N. C.—Stirred by the many recent outbreaks of mob violence in the South, the Y.M.C.A. Student Conference for the Southeast, which has just concluded its annual meeting here, adopted and gave to the press the following resolutions relative to lynching and mob violence:

"Whereas, the encouraging decline in lynching which has marked recent years suffered a serious relapse in 1926; and,

"Whereas, there have occurred in recent months many instances of this fearful crime, particularly in the States of Mississippi and Arkansas; and,

"Whereas, we, th Southern Regional Council of Student Y.M.C.A.'s, assembled at Blue Ridge, N. C., believe we voice the sentiment of the great mass of Southern people in condemning all such atrocious crime; and,

"Whereas, we have heard of these tragic occurrences with keen regret, and believe that they are unjustifiable from any standpoint;

"Therefore, be it resolved:

"That we earnestly hope that the public officials and the Christian citizenship of our country will use every means of upholding the law and cultivating public sentiment against such atrocities.'

Similar resolutions were adopted by the Y.W.C.A. Student Conference meeting at the same place during the preceding week. The students in attendance at these two conferences represent practically all the colleges of the Southeastern region.

Lynchings and Burnings Crush Hope

All educated, well-trained Negroes know that the South, in consideration of its rapidly expanding activities along all lines of development, laying particular stress upon the vivid growth of its industries, offers the greatest field of every kind of opportunity for the prepared citizen; and because the majority of American Negroes live in the South; and, therefore, have their major interests here, it naturally follows that the services of well-trained Nergoes are greatly needed in the South, for the benefit of those of the race who still need encouragement and enlightenment as they struggle along in their pursuit of happiness.

But the one thing which crushes hope and breeds discontent among Negroes is the lynchings and burnings of human beings. This one thing has a tendency to demoralize every class of Negroes from the most ignorant to the proudest and most intelligent; because lynchings prompt a feeling of insecurity of life and property, and wherever this feeling exists, it destroys hope and contentment.

Intelligent Negroes admit that Southern white people have done more in recent years to eradicate mobbery than ever before; but there is still a daring defiance thrown at constituted authority—so that within the last few months, lynchings have seemed to be taking on some of their old form. Men are still challenging the law by taking it into their own hands and murdering helpless victims accused of awful crimes. There must be some remedy that can be applied to this, the greatest curse that lay at the door of the most powerful government and nation in the world.

Every time a lynching occurs, the Negro feels that he is being taken advantage of, just because, in a manner, he is as helpless as a mouse would be in the paws of a big lion; and naturally, he feels keenly disappointed when the American white people allow this curse to continue. Again he feels that should the American white people sincerely desire to go right after lynching, they could create an issue against it, which would become so national in extent, that even the election of Congressmen would depend upon a pledge from them to the effect that if they should be elected, they would use every energy and every influence to cause the people of the respective districts who sent them to Congress, to arouse public sentiment against this terrible curse; which causes foreign nations, who, though they admire the American people for their creative genius and their natural initiative to do big things for the betterment of civilization yet cannot understand why the home of the brave and the free, will not annihilate this curse.

Public sentiment, it is generally conceded, is the most powerful instrument a nation has to deal with big issues affecting the honor and integrity of its government and its institutions. The most effective demedy, then, is an awakened public sentiment against lynchings whose powed should extend with the slogan: "Down with lynching, North, East, South and West"—accompanied with the cry in one great voice— the law ought and must be respected. Down with lynching should be the cry of the whole country backed by the strong will of all the people; because the curse is not by any means confined to the South, nor is it limited to Negroes alone. And after all, any man tried before any fair and impartial American court must, if found guilty of criminal assault, or any other capital crime, pay the penalty of death. Death is but death. Why, then, defy the law and bring dishonor upon the American nation which is esteemed by all the nations of the world as being the most enlightened and the most fair in its dealings with its citizens, but for this curse of lynching and burning of human beings alive. It is so repulsive in its degrading aspects, that there is no human mind that can possibly imagine a crime more black, nor one that is so sure to claim retribution sooner or later of its perpetrators.

Out of the overwhelming majority group of Southern Negroes, there is a strikingly large number of intelligent, observant men and women among them, thoroughly prepared for work and service. They are trained men and women fully able to differentiate between justice and injustice and feel very keenly, wonton offences against their ordinary civil rights as citizens. These intelligent, observant Negroes represent the brain and culture of the American Negroes; and they think like Dr. Robert Moton, who said to 215 graduates as he awarded their diplomas: "But of one thing I am sure," said the doctor, "there is no part of our great country that offers larger opportunities for the well-rounded, educated boy or girl, whether in domestic arts, mechanical arts or in liberal arts than the South with all of its marvelous natural resources that are rapidly coming into their own. Add to this an increasingly more sympathetic and kindly feeling on the part of our white population towards our Negro population with a desire for cooperation and helpfulness—more manifest, not only on the part of leading white people, but of the average white person than ever before in the history of the country."

The colored people of the South, like Dr. Moton, see these sympathetic movements and appreciate them, they love the South and believe their greatest opportunities are here, there is no place they so much love as a home because of the beautiful fixed climate of this section, but the thing that keeps them from becoming fixed in their purpose to settle down in one locality and work, not only for the good of themselves, but for the welfare of the whole South, is that great mystery of why the American nation as one man will not work out a plan to stop lynchings and burnings at the stake.

When liquor seemed to threaten the integrity of the country an issue was made of it and national prohibition resulted—when white slavery or the traffic in women threatened the honor and virtue of the American homes, the Mann Act prohibiting such traffic grew out of it—when the British government taxed the American colonies without representation, the colonists made an issue of it and out of that issue grew this great and grand nation of independent people; and so other acts threatening the honor and integrity of this nation have become issues and public sentiment has eradicated them, but lynching and burning of human beings, the worse possible curse to a country, has continued for many years; and no issue has been made of it. No nation-wide public sentiment, against whose current no human craft can stay intact has been aroused; notwithstanding, as Dr. Moton further remarked to those 215 graduates the other day: "Negroes have convinced the people of this country, by their conduct, their character, their achievements and by their service, that they are worthy of the same considerations given to other American citizens. This being true a strong public sentiment growing out of the will-to-do-it of the people of every section of this country, should be so aroused against it, that it would stop at nothing less than a speedy annihiliation of an undeniable and wholly unneccessary curse to the great United States of America whose honor roll can never be more spotless than that of all other nations, until this most gruesome of crimes shall have been stopped—erased from the front pages of the American press.

This done, and the confidence that will be created in the hearts of every Negro in the white man's determination to protect them, will be so strong and a new hope created among them so stimulating, that nowhere in the world can there be found two peoples whose friendship is so firmly cemented for the best good of the whole country as that which will exist between the American white and negro citizenry.

"Y" STUDENTS CONDEMN LYNCHINGS

Washington.—Resolutions condemning lynching and mob violence were adopted by the Y. M. C. A. Student Conference for the Southeast, which met at Blue Ridge, N. C., in annual session

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DR. MOTON TELLS PRES. LYNCHING HAS DECLINED

Also Reports Progress In Management of Veterans Hospital at Tuskegee

Preston News Service

Washington, D. C., Dec. 30.—In response to a direct inquiry from the President of the United States, Dr. R. R. Moton says that lynching is on the decrease in the South. Dr. Moton called on President Coolidge last Tuesday.

Dr. Moton said that President Coolidge inquired specifically into the situation regarding lynching and mob violence and that he was able to report that on the basis of present indications the number of lynchings for this year would be substantially below those for 1926.

President Coolidge also received a report on the Veterans' Hospital located at Tuskegee, which some time ago was placed entirely under the supervision of a Negro personnel. Dr. Moton reported that the hospital was showing excellent progress under the present management and assured the President that things were running smoothly.

Negro Lit'd N Tuskegee

P... TO WIPE OUT LYNCHING

NATION'S CHURCHES TO UNITE IN DAY OF PENITENCE

SUNDAY, FEB. 12TH

Special to Journal and Guid...

New York, Dec. 13.—A summons to church people to penitence and prayer to free our nation from the curse of lynching and mob violence was issued today by the Federal Council of Churches through its Commission on Race Relations.

"Lynching is a crime which leaves its stain upon us all," the call declares. "Any community that flouts the dignity of the law and courts of justice opens the way to the violent rule of the mob throughout the nation. It assaults the very ideals upon which our civilization is dependent. A nation's penitence and prayer must be summoned both to check the lynching evil and to build up deeper respect for the process of justice and new sympathetic understanding among all people. In the attitude of penitence and the atmosphere of prayer the best things come forth."

4000 Mob Victims

"The sobering fact that more than four thousand people have been victims of lynching in our country has filled all people of goodwill with a sense of horror and shame," states the call. "That mob violence should have continued through the years, so that in 1926 there were as many as 30 persons lynched in the United States, is so flagrantly opposed to the progress of right and brotherhood that all who are committed to the way of Christ are asked to observe a day of penitence and prayer that our American nation may be purged of this blot upon our civilization."

The day chosen for this observance is February 12, known as Race Relations Sunday.

The call continuing urges national confession before God for "our failure to act on the belief that we are all 'of one blood' and have one Father," for "the callous indifference and silence we have shown in the face of monstrous wrong, thereby ourselves becoming guilty in the sight of God and man," and for "our false sense of racial superiority and all the heartless attitudes that accompany it."

The statement suggests as grounds for thanksgiving "the new sense of the unity of the whole human family to which our generation is coming," and "a deepening sensitiveness of conscience with reference to all discrimination against any of our fellows because of race or class." America should also be thankful, it is suggested, "for all public officers who courageously defend the majesty of law and orderly government, who faithfully protect those for whom they are responsible, and who resolutely do their duty even in the face of danger and death."

Call Urges Prayer

The call urges prayer that "all arrogant self-assertion, all prejudice and suspicion, all attitudes that make for strife, may be purged away" and that "the life and liberty of all the people may be held sacred and secure." It pleads that " a deepened sense of the Divine Fatherhood and consequently of our human brotherhood may be born in all the people," and that "we may have fearlessness in facing intrenched wrongs and unflagging energy in striving for a social order permeated by the spirit of love and fellowship."

"The sin and evil of mob violence in America has become a burden upon our conscience, a stain upon our national honor, and a menace to our law and order," said Dr. George E. Haynes, secretary of the Federal Council's Commission on Race Relations, 105 East Twenty-second street, New York, in discussing the national conditions which have led to the issuance of the call to prayer, the need for which was stressed by the Commission on Interracial Co-operation.

The 45-Year Record

"In the 45 years ending with 1926, American mobs lynched 4,551 persons, about three-fourths of whom were Negroes, about ninety-one of whom were women. Only four states —Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont—have never had a recorded lynching. In 1922 there were 57 victims of lynching mobs in the United States: in 1923 there were 33; in 1924 and 1925 there were 16 each year; in 1926 there were 30; and in 1927 to November 15 there were 14 victims, two of them burned at the stake," stated Dr. Haynes.

"Actual or attempted assault upon women, which many people think the sole cause of lynchings, was alleged in less than one-fourth of the cases and proven in the courts in none," he said.

"Every lynching that occurs is an indictment of Christianity before the world," he declared. "American lynchings, according to the testimony of missionaries abroad, are doing much to hinder and discredit mission work around the world.'"

A pamphlet of suggestions for the observance of Race Relations Sunday has been prepared.

Topics Sugested For Sermons

Among topics suggested for sermons and addresses in connection with the observance are: "What is the Idea Christian Brotherhood in Race Relations?" "The Opportunity of the Church for Promoting Better Race Relations in America," "The Challenge of the Race Question to Christian Missions and American Democracy," "Fundamental Feelings and Attitudes Between Races," "American Indian Life and History," "The Lynching Evil and Its Effects Upon American Life," "Contributions of Negroes to American Music and Literature," "Present Provisions for Negro Education," "Migration of Negroes to the Cities and its Effects."

"The Significance of the Negro Church in American Life," "Mutual Interests of the White and Negro Races in Health, Housing, Industry," and "Contacts With Orientals."

GOVERNOR OFFERS AID TO PREVENT MOB VIOLENCE

Law Must Be Maintained at All Hazards, Says Tennessee Executive.

Nashville, Tenn., Dec. 12.—The State of Tennessee wants no more outbreaks of lynching and mob violence and stands ready to do all in its power to prevent them, according to an open letter to sheriffs and attorneys general issued by Governor Henry H. Horton. Calling attention to the law which gives the governor the power in an emergency to "call into service such police officers of the state as in his opinion are necessary to suppress such acts of threatened violence," Governor Horton assures the county officers that his office is "at all times interested in keeping peace and good order in all the counties of the state, and will lend its aid to such end upon the request of local authorities or notice of such outbreaks." In conclusion the governor says: "The peace and good order of the state should be maintained at all hazards."

Coming so soon after the recent lynching in Maury county, the statement is taken as an outgrowth of that occurence, which it is said could easily have been prevented had the local authorities brought the matter promptly to the attention of the governor or taken other reasonable precautions. Governor Horton's statement is clearly in line with the policy of his predecessor, Governor Austin Peay, who did not hesitate on occasion to take vigorous action for the prevention of mob violence. When waited on by a delegation from the Tenenssee State Interracial Committee following the Maury county affair, Governor Horton assured the committee that he stood ready to do everything in his power to prevent further occurrences of the same kind.

Lynchings- 1927
Discussions.

Negro Press, (Southern)

2429

WHY AN ANTI-LYNCHING LAW?

Heretofore we have been hearing in favor of the Dyer Anti-Lynching Law or any other. But what is the use?

If the floods, the devastation, the misery that now hold the South in a grip cannot stop lynching, how can the puny Federal Government, that can't enforce the 13th, 14th and 15th amendments do it?

There have been more lynching since the Mississippi River went on a rampage and spread destruction over certain states than there were in any recent period of the same length. Brutal, unreasonable lynchings! We record on page one, the case of Coffeyville, Kansas, in which, on the false cry of a white girl, more than one black man came near meeting death. And so it goes.

Good, Christian, fairminded white people know many of these cries of "rape," are false, but like Pilate, they wash their hands, turn their heads and let innocent Negroes go to their deathr. But their hands are not clean. The blood of these victims is on the hands and the heads of the good white folks. By their silence and their indifference they are particeps criminis, and verily they will reap what they have sown.

"LYNCHERS ARE COWARDS" SAYS EX-SHERIFF

Washington, April 6.—The New York "Times" for March 10 publishes an interview with an old-time southern sheriff in which he declares that lynchers are cowardly. "Just give me one sure-shot rifleman—I would not want but one—" the ex-sheriff is reported as saying, "and I will stand off from a jail any mob of 500 that ever was mustered to do an unfortunate to death without due process of law. I have seen the thing work out time and time again. The realization of guilt on the part of the mob undermines and saps their courage, if they had any to start with.

"Our modern lynching mobs," continued the ex-sheriff, "operate in defiance of the law; they flout all the safeguards of courts, sheriffs, and police. They are not representative citizens, and they trample by these means on civilized [illegible] up for itself. [illegible] know all this full well, how [illegible] buoyed up by liquor they may [illegible] on the occasion of the lynching orgies. Half or three quarters drunk by [illegible] is the case with most eminent lynchers, they are never too befuddled [illegible] to understand just how far to go the method of opposition to a determined and [illegible] sheriff. Make no mistake, they will save their own precious hides. Very rarely did you ever hear of a member of a lynching party receiving injuries."

It is a sad truth that sheriffs of the type of the narrator are so conspicuous by their absence in the Southland.

LYNCH HIM IN NEW YORK

New York, June 3.—A recent editorial in the N. Y. World points out that the resolute policeman quelled what might have become a lynching mob. The editorial, relayed by the N. A. A. C. P., is as follows:

"LYNCH HIM!" IN NEW YORK

On a subway platform the other day a Negro stabbed a man and immediately the crowd began to yell "Lynch him!" Then appeared on the scene Patrolman Gosselin of the East 35th Street Station, and in a decisive manner he collared the Negro, who had already been cuffed around considerably, and hauled him off to the station house. The incident is of interest to all who give any attention to the lynching problem. The temper of the crowd unquestionably was ugly; had it been dealt with half-heartedly, as many a county sheriff deals with a crowd, there is no telling what might have happened. But one resolute New York cop settled the whole fracas in a few seconds. The difference is that the county sheriff secretly has a suspicion that his prisoner is going to be lynched, anyhow, and thus is licked before he appears on the steps of the jail. But the New York cop hasn't the faintest notion that his prisoner is going to be lynched, and hence when he faces a crowd he means business. One could wish for a few Patrolman Gosselins stationed at strategic points throughout the country.

MISSISSIPPI LYNCHING ON LINDBERGH DAY BRINGS TELEGRAM TO COOLIDGE

New York, June 24.—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 69 Fifth Avenue today telegraphed President Coolidge calling to his attention that on the very day New York and the nation were celebrating Charles Lindbergh's and America's triumph before the world in aviation, a crowd of "degenerate barbarians" in Mississippi tied two Negroes charged with murder to a telephone pole saturated them with gasoline and burned them alive, humilating this country before all civilization. The as yet unpunished lynching of Aiken, South Caro lina, is also cited as justifying the plea that the President demand a fed eral anti-lynching law at the next session of Congress. The telgram to President Coolidge, signed by Jas. Weldon Johnson, Secretary of the Na tional Association for the Advance mnt of Colored People, is as follows:

On the very day that millions of people in New York City were celebrating a feat of courage, skill, sagacity and scientific out the civilized world, a crowd of degenerate barbarians in the State of Mississippi tied two human beings to a telephone pole, saturated them with gasoline and burned them alive, thereby besmirching the name of this land wherever civilization is known.

The victims of the Mississippi mob respectively to be publicly murdered by unpuniched mobs in that State, this year, were Ngroes deprived of any semblance of due process of law. It is safe to say that no spot on earth except the Southern States of America, in particular the State of Mississippi, would such a degenerate and bestial violation of all decent human instincts as the burning alive of two human beings accused of murder, be tolerate.

The occurance of this mob crime on the very day that New York and the nation were acclaiming Charles A. Lendbergh adds weight to the demand for a federal law to extend the power of the nation to the backward ignorant and brutal communities in which neither human life nor the Constitution nor the good name of the United States is respected. May we again call to your attention at this time, th mob murder in Aiken, S. C., of a colored woman and two colored men, ow whom one had been declared innocent in court, new trial ordered for the othr two by that State Supreme Court. This mob murder is as yet unpunished and the mob murderers go unmolested and flaunt theirs guilt.

In the name not only of the colored citizens of the United States, but of all the citizens with any pretense of respect for the honor of their native land, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People urges you to demand of Congress at its next session the prompt enactment of a federal anti-lynching law.

ARKANSAS MOB SEEKS ANOTHER VICTIM

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., June 1.—(By A. N. P.)—The , lynching epidemic which had its genesis when a mob sought to lynch Lonnie Dixon accused of murdering a white girl, broke out anew here Wednesday when a mob of some 200 men seized the rifles, with which they had snuffed out the life of John Carter and terrorized Negroes throughout the city [illegible] weeks ago, searched every probable hiding place for an unknown Negro who was supposed to have struck down and attempted to assault a white woman Tuesday afternoon.

The woman reported that a Negro had attacked her while she was picking flowers in a strip of woods near her home Tuesday afternoon. When the report was circulated, the thirst for blood grew more acute and the mob formed for the purpose of "aiding the officers in their search." Bloodhounds were brought from Hot Springs but the rains during the evening rendered them useless. The human bloodhounds, however, took up the scent but like their canine brothers had to give up the task.

The officers, according to reports, were inclined to doubt the woman's story saying she had given more than one version of the affair. But it was further reported that a man answering the description had been arrested but the officers were affraid to take the prisoner before the woman for possitive identification, fearing mob violence.

Thus another chapter is being written in Little Rock's "reign of terror" which has resulted in the lynching of one Negro, the driving away of others and alleged plans for a wholesale exodus of Negroes from the city.

MOB LAW AND ITS ULTIMATE RESULTS.

It ought to be difficult for an outsider to believe the reports coming from various sources in regard to the floggings and the lawlessness in Alabama and much of it in and about our own city. But they come in a way and from a source that leaves one no alternative. The many deeds of this kind coming to light make one wonder where and what the end will be.

This revival of the activities of the night rider and the lash must be the result of a spirit that has been extensively cultivated and has found comfort in quarters where it is now unwelcome.

It verily proves the eventual invariable results of winking at justice Evils of this kind, like all others, grow out of the tolerance given them in their inception. Men are as much like children as saplings are like trees They grow in the direction of their bending and quite as fast in proportion to their size.

If they can flout the law with an excuse, they soon become bold enough to do so without one. If they can get abbetting and sympathy for unjust acts against those against whom there is prejudice, they eventually become to be indifferent about whether they get an excuse at all or not.

In sections of America the mob spirit has been taught inadvertently through the years by winking at injustice practiced on the helpless Negro. The thought of mob violence got its inception there. Decency excused it on this grounds or that. The general sympathy and comfort it got was like a gentle shower on germinating seed. The idea and the habit grew because it was practiced and those that practiced it could escape discipline by the law. It spread in more directions than one and ramified the higher stratum of the social fabric in an apparently harmless but in a deadly and insidious form. It numbers not only Negroes among its victims but whites as well. and, worse than all, the womanhood of both races is not exempted. It is fastly becoming a problem of how much of it the social standards can stand; whether it shall be tolerated in any form or not or practiced on any one. The fact that it cannot be cured for white people and winked at for Negroes is as apparent as its existence.

It serves to no good purpose practiced on either. The excuse for it is a blow at the heart of civilized government.

It means the growth of a form of social anarchy in time quite as dangerous to good government in America as the real plague in Russia.

If Alabama admits its inability to handle it, it must also admit much of its best citizenry to be in sympathy with it, if not a party to it. From very nearly all parts of the state the reports come.

Other states have been ignominously disgraced by it, and Alabama can be no exception to the rule nor exempted from the results of its work.

ENCOURAGING THE MOB

The mob is more flourishing in this section of the country than in any other. There is a reason for it being more prevalent; it is more condoned. Last week a mob gathered in Dodge county for the purpose of lynching an accused colored man. Out of the usual it did not carry out its full lawless attempt, but returned the accused to the sheriff. Mention of this was given last week and request made for the apprehension of the members of the mob. The crime charged to the accused is a heinous one, the gathering of the mob was equally so and every member thereof should be tried and punished. They are known but seemingly they deem it an honor to be known as law violators, in fact, mobbers. This honor is conferred by the judge of the superior court of that circuit, who from publish reports, condoned and treated with them. What a spectacle to be enacted in the Empire state of the south! "Judge Keeps Promise to Mob," is a part of bold headlines in one of the daily papers of this section. This proves, if this newspaper gave an authentic report, that the judge is acquainted with some members of the mob and instead of frowning upon them by calling the strong arm of the law, he rather condoned them. The article in black face types says:

> Eastman, Ga., Oct. 11.—Fulfillment of a promise made by Judge Graham to an organized mob that a Negro who was about to be lynched would be tried within a week if the band would disperse and permit the law to take its course, the trial of Willie Thomas, 20, Negro, and the man whom he involves in the murder of W. H. Howell, 66, near McRae, about a week ago, namely Tom Buchanan, 28, will begin here tomorrow morning.

The Tribune rejoices over the fact that the mob refused to carry out its intent to lynch the accused, and thus did not blacken the very fine lynching record of Georgia so far this year. It has been proven, however, that there are yet many lawlessly inclined mobbers who have no care whatever for the good name of the state.

In condemning this mob it must not be understood that we in any manner condone the act of the ones guilty of the crime that incited the mobbers. If it was in our power we would instill in the minds of every member of our race the necessity of being law abiding and refraining from committing any offense. Whenever they are guilty, we are as anxious for the law to take its course as any other citizen. In this case, it has been developed that this simple minded Negro man of the back country, was induced to commit the offense upon the promise of a few dollars and a cut down automobile.

He did not count the cost. He believed in the white man and felt that in this white man he had protection. The few dollars and the automobile were sufficient glory for him. In the rural districts, especially, the simple minded colored man is dominated by the white man. He is compelled to carry out instruction. In other cases it developed that the committing of crime was influenced by white men. If it is proven that the white man in the case is guilty he should receive a more severe sentence than the simple minded Negro.

"ANTI-LYNCHING DAY"

Washington, Nov. 7—The Federal Council of Churches has designated February 12, 1928, Lincoln's Birthday, as the day upon which twenty-eight denominations will call upon the nation to banish the lynching evil forever. Dr George E. Haynes, formerly professor of sociology at Fisk University and now chairman of the Committee on Race Relations of the Federal Council of Churches, New York, N. Y., has been authorized by the administrative committee to call upon the churches of the country to observe anti-lynching day.

In issuing the call, Dr. Haynes referred to statistics indicating that there was a considerable decline in lynching in the United States until 1926. During the years 1924 and 1925, he said, 18 lynchings had been committed, while 39 were committed in 1926, and 16 recorded for the first eight months of the present year.

PREVENTING LYNCHING

When it became apparent that feeling was running dangerously high at Wolfpit, Ky., following the killing of a white miner by a Negro, Gov. Flem D. Sampson immediately dispatched troops to the scene to ward off the possibility of a lynching in case the alleged murderer should be captured by the hundreds of men who were combing the countryside for him. It was precisely the course of action that should have been instituted. Lynching is an inexcusable barbarous performance and one that puts an ineradicable blot on the record of the community that allows it to take place. The circumstances are always such that an ounce of prevention is worth many pounds of cure. It is obligatory to hunt out and punish those who perpetrate a lynching, but it is a thousand times better to keep it from taking place.

It is easy to understand that no state executive likes to advertise to the world at large that the people of any portion of the community under his guidance have become so lost to the better instincts of their natures that they are disposed to take the law into their own hands and commit a crime in return for a crime. In case it is true, however, that the passions of men have come close to the place where they will be uncontrollable by the ordinary forces of the law, it is the part of courage and intelligence to augment the machinery of orderly procedure to such an extent that it can and will function in spite of extraordinary conditions. Sending state troops to prevent a lynching will bring a state and its governor publicity, but publicity of the most desirable sort, especially by contrast with what comes when a mob of crazed human beings hang or burn a fellow for some real or fancied offense, no matter how terrible. Gov. Sampson has the right idea, and it is pertinent to observe that quick and courageous action of the same general sort during 1927 is credited with having prevented in less than forty-two lynchings in this country.

—From Nashville Banner

Lynchings - 1927
Discussions.

White Press, (Northern)

2392

Nagging de Niggah

By WILLIAM MELVILLE SUTTON.

ARTICLE I.

Somewhere below Cincinnati—probably not many miles from that drab and dreary city—the serene, eel-like body of Mason and Dixon's line runs. Out of Cincinnati, bound for all points in the South, are palatial trains, all-Pullmans, designed for millionaires, nouveau-riche and Northern Salesmen Who Demand Comfort. Out of this same port run cheaper accomodations—combinations of Pullmans and coaches—and "niggah" coaches.

Crossing the Dead Line.

The Northerner may know little about geography—he may not know just where the Mason and Dixon line divides North from South—but his vaunted, but fictitious liberalism from paraded bigotry, half-hearted, wordy tolerance from complete intolerance. Yet, however weak his powers of discernment, let him cross the Mason and Dixon line and he knows. How does he know? The Negro of Negroes who, slightly emboldened by the absence of kicks in the North and as employe of the Pullman or the railway company, courteously, but firmly and impressively, furthered the chamber business of his or her employers, now become, veritably, a shrinking, fawning slave.

The white man—the homing Southerner and the sojourning Northerner with a superiority complex—who accepted the black man's service a little timidly, a little fearfully perhaps, yet in the spirit in which it was proffered, now is the self-assertive master, curt, abrupt, peremptory, blustering.

The Negro knows he is in the South; the Northerner knows he is in the South. Both forget or ignore the existence of the Emancipation Proclamation or the Constitutional Amendment that seeks to make all men free and equal in this good old U. S. A. For the Southerner it is merely the return of the master to his domain. The spirit of the South, to speak of the Negro and his Northern "friend," pervades them both. He who doubts that a Northerner can become a Southerner in a few minutes need but ride across the smug imaginary line that separates the apparently free Negro from the obviously enslaved. Just to cross the line on an American train is sufficient introduction to the nature of the South.

Give a Liberal Power!

The usual Northerner, however boisterous he is in asserting his liberalism, is always ready to try out his power on the black in the South. Often, being of the same mental and social calibre as the Southerner, he smarts of a too equal rating of Negro with white; often, he smarts for no reason at all. Whatever his emotions, he becomes an experimental psychologist among the Negroes. Figuratively, he likes to kick one and hear him squeal and see him run, and he has the assurance that no Southern black has the audacity or the courage to return the kick, for always in the offing, with hands itching to slip a noose over his head and to string him up to the nearest tree, stands the white man's mob—symbol of the white man's justice in the South—assembled as if out of nowhere in less than it takes to say "Jack Robinson" or, for that matter, than it takes to kick a niggah. To the Southerner, born and bred to superiority and mastery, asserting his royal rights is a boring process. He would rather kick a dog—there is much more fun in that for him.

They Do Lynch.

This matter of lynchings and mob-rule: I, in common with other Northerners who had never been in the South, had always been inclined to doubt the number of hangings of Negroes and to ascribe the few I was willing to admit were perpetrated to a gang of irresponsible, upright eous defenders of virginity, who, envious because a black and not they, was courageous enough to take it from a woman, reimbursed their lean souls by wrecking vengeance upon him.

Unreported Lynchings.

But during my stay among the corn and watermelon, the cotton and the rice, my doubts were knocked on the head. I found that lesser crimes gave rise to mob rule and lynchings, that a mere theft—for which a white man might be sentenced to 90 days in the county jail—would bring swift death to a black, that the mere presence of a Negro in the neighborhood of a crime would make him and a rope the center of a huge and hilarious celebration, no news of which would ever penetrate to the North.

The festivities would be entered in with a great show of spirit, zeal, gayety and enjoyment by every worshipful Baptist, Methodist, Ku Kluxer and other such fiendish morons in the vicinity who could be gathered in 15 minutes or so, and these sadists would be supplemented as the celebration continued by others to whom the glorious news had spread. After it was all over, nothing would be said. There would be a deadly sinister calm. No one would know anything about it, the participants would not even recognize each other. Perfunctory investigations, resulting in nothing, of course, would be made by the authorities, many of whom, I would venture to say, were among the merry throng, if not among the masked masters of ceremonies, that watched like a scientific group the writhings and moanings of a Negro depended from rope and tree.

It was while I was in Memphis that I heard the story of such an affair—the inside story, not the one given to the press, which I represented some time later in the world's proudest and biggest inland cotton market—a story involving a young Negro whose lithe and clean body was hanged to a telegraph pole down in the Ozark Mountains. Originally the black, who was 19 years old, had been accused of stealing corn from another black. But that was inconsequential. Then he was accused of stealing furs and animals from a silver fox ranch, owned by a white man. Although the situation then took on serious proportions, since a white man was involved, the rancher could not stir up enough wrath to bring about a lynching and he could not produce sufficient evidence, even in the South, to cause the Negro's arrest.

But he succeeded in destroying a reputation easily slain—that of a Negro. Thus, when a white girl, aged nine, disappeared from the hills, young Tom—I call him that, as I cannot recall his real name—was charged with raping and then killing the child. Without much ado, without questioning, without efforts having been made to ascertain the facts, without trial, Tom was torn from his cabin, around which grew the corn he was raising for his livelihood, was dragged through the hills, over rocks and stones, and hanged, a torn figure, to the pole. And when the district attorney of the county was asked what he was going to do about it, he replied, naively, yet with finality:

"No-Account, Enyways."

"They ain't much we kin do. We don' know wich fallers wuz in on the lynchin,' an' besides, he wuz a no-account niggah, enyways."

And illustrating the effect on the Negro: A young Southern lady, full of the Southerner's pride of the South, and a worker for the estimable Red Cross of Memphis, who accepted my wife and myself despite our atheistic and Northern views, finding in us a new sort of audience to her fund of Negro stories which she was so fond of telling because they illustrated her humane and social scientific activities, and thereby her rare ability, retailed this one—not privy to the fact that it was an arraignment of her and her kind:

One day, a much harassed and fearful Negro entered the Red Cross office and pleaded that the workers therein help him out of a dilemma, which involved a debt, a white farmer and a threat of jail for the black. Our young lady promised to help him, to arbitrate with the white man and to obtain more time for his paying of the debt. This entailed a trip to a suburb of Memphis, where the farmer reigned liege lord over the descendands of his ancestors' slaves and ex-slaves. In her Ford, the Red Cross worker took the black to the suburb, deigning to accept his fulsome company. It was a day after a severe rain storm, the first in many weeks of drouth, and the dried dirt of the country roads was slippery mud. Especially was it slippery and dangerous on a steep hill that they had to traverse in order to reach their destination. To avoid accident they had to get out of the automobile and walk.

A few feet from the top of the hill, the Red Cross lady found that her French heels and her automobile legs were not equal to the task before them—the mud was too menacing, the hill was too steep. There was the danger of a twisted ankle or a broken collar-bone or worse.

"Hey, niggah," she called to the black walking a few paces behind her, in approved Negro-to-white attitude, "give me a hand, and help me down the hill."

The Lesson of Fear.

"Lawdy, lawdy, leddy" cried the Negro in alarm, "If ah was to give y'all a haind and y'all was to slip wheah would ah be? Ah'd jest natch'ly be lynched an' no questions asked."

She remonstrated with him.

"No, no, leddy, ah's 'fraid. They ain't no white men 'round heah naow, nohow, but jest y'all let 'em see a white leddy git hurt in a niggah's comp'ny an' den dey'd 'pear fum no-wheah."

And all the way down the hill, as the leddy clumsily and fearfully made slow descent, he importuned her not to slip, looked about furtively in panic, hoped that she would not fall

"Y'all's got mah life in yoh hainds, leddy. Y'all see, don'cha, dat ef y'all was to fall an' ah was to trah to help y'all—does white men simply wouldn' understan' an' think ah was—wal, ah was tryin'—y'all see, don'cha. Ah suah would be lynched."

Thus, has the Negro learned his lesson of fear.

BROOKLYN EAGLE
JUN 2 1927

TAM[illegible] ANTI-LYNCHING WAR.

All honor to the Governor of Florida and the police of Tampa for their firm and fearless stand against the mob attempting to lynch B. J. Levins, accused of murdering five persons! The man may be guilty—probably he is. But a smirch on the reputation of the city and of the State seems to have been averted.

At a price? Certainly—a high price. Four are dead, three are likely to die and thirty are in hospital from the fire of machine guns. Some victims were innocent bystanders. That also is an incident of the putting down of mob violence.

But the price paid is worth paying. Florida wants to stand among the progressive and dignified members of our family of States. Not all of this ambition is due to a desire to attract Northern capital and Northern enterprise. A good part of it is based on less materialistic considerations. Every lynching sets back the State where it is permitted to take place. An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. After a mob murder many elements conspire to make the executing of any of the ringleaders difficult and the serious imprisonment of any offenders unlikely. It is far better to use needed force in the beginning, and Florida is distinctly on the right track.

N. Y. WORLD

JUL 31 1927

Lynching Issue Stirs Mississippi Electors

Candidates for Forrest County Sheriff Asked to Declare Themselves—Campaign Promises To Be "Red Hot"

By Charles P. Jones

NEW ORLEANS, La., July 30.—They are going to hold an election in Forrest County, Miss., this fall. The fact in itself is not unusual though of course interesting, for politics is the very salt of life in Mississippi.

Only one other thing so intrigues the native son of the Magnolia State as a campaign for office. The exception is a lynching. This time the lynching issue has injected itself into the election. Hence the undue significance of the coming struggle. Some persons even go so far as to see therein the most effective blow ever struck at mob violence in the South.

All of the candidates are Democrats. The real election in the State is the primary, at which only Democrats vote. It really is a work of supererogation to hold the so-called general election afterward, for there is no Republican Party in Mississippi. Mississippi delegates crop up in the G. O. P. National Conventions, but that is one of the mysteries that passeth understanding.

Will Not Take Any Half-Way Measures

Forrest County, in the guise of a group of its most representative citizens, has posed the lynching question fairly before the candidates for Sheriff. What is more, it apparently intends to take no half-way answers.

Forrest County bases on the prosperous little manufacturing city of Hattiesburg, an example of progressiveness to much of the rest of the State where the interests are largely agricultural. Hattiesburg is away from the river, and felt only indirectly the ravages of the flood that made much of the lower Mississippi Valley a hideous travesty of its former self. Still, the flood depression had its effect upon business. Then along came the campaign talk, and Forrest County (named for the dashing Confederate cavalry leader) threw its hat into the air, gave a rebel yell and informed all and sundry: "Now we will have a red-hot election and give all the merchants and bankers something real to talk about."

At that time the lynching issue was not dreamed of, certainly not by the bulk of the all-white electorate. Now comes this self-constituted group, representing the public conscience, and hurls a bombshell. The seven candidates for Sheriff are called upon to declare themselves "definitely, in advance of the primary," on a series of questions, of which the first typified the whole. It follows:

"If elected Sheriff of Forrest County, will you defend all prisoners in your custody and preserve your jail from attack by a mob, at the risk of your own life, shooting to kill if necessary in order to perform fully your statutory oath?"

Another question asks if the candidate will pledge himself, if elected, to appoint deputies "who will go to the same length in defending an accused from mob attack as in procuring his arrest."

Even more stringent, perhaps, upon a hand-shaking orator who wants to keep all the voters as friends, is the demand that the new Sheriff issue a written warning, immediately upon taking office, "that any attack upon the majesty of the law by mob will be met by all force necessary."

The open letter says that the questions "believe themselves entitled to a public answer," and concludes with the charge that there have been "seven mob murders in Mississippi in the past four months," laying the blame therefor upon the Sheriffs.

Foremost People Sign Questionnaire

Among the signers of the questionnaire are some of Hattiesburg's foremost people, including Mayor B. D. Moore; Francis D. Harmon, editor of the American; Dr. J. L. Johnson, President of the Mississippi Woman's College; Frank W. Foote, President of the First National Bank; Dr. T. E. Ross, former President of the State Medical Association; Mrs. Howard S. Williams, suffrage and uplift leader, and many other men and women whose names count for much in that section.

Perhaps it was mere coincidence that the first page of Editor Harmon's paper next morning carried an article, under display type, telling how heavily armed guards had been placed around the jail in Columbus, Miss., to prevent a mob from breaking in and lynching a prisoner. Elsewhere on the same page was an account of the legal hanging of two Negroes in Okolona, Miss., for the murder of a member of their own race.

Certainly it was mere coincidence that just about the time the candidates in Forrest County were reading the open letter infuriated citizens of Hazlehurst, Miss., "ran every nigger out of town." This incident calls for a few lines of explanation, for it typifies the whole spirit of mob feeling throughout the section.

The town was crowded with the usual week-end gathering of farmers. A young Negro woman was learning to drive an automobile and making poor progress. She ran into and injured the wife and small daughter of a leading citizen. The story got about that a Negro had attacked a white woman, the unforgivable sin. The Negroes heard the report about the same time and most of them knew what they were expected to do and did it. They went home, immured themselves within their houses and closed the front doors. They were not molested. The others, terrified and shrieking, were chased beyond the corporate limits. One Negro woman fell over a pile of crossties and broke her leg. No one else suffered severe injuries, officials stated. Finally word got around as to what actually had happened, but by then not a black face was to be seen in Hazlehurst. That was Saturday evening.

Next morning all the black cooks were cooking breakfast in their "white folks'" homes as usual, the Negro porters were in the station and the garages, affairs were as they should be in a town with half its population of African descent. There had been an unfortunate misunderstanding, but everything was straightened out and there was no occasion for hard feelings. Sabbath calm and a July sun brooded over Hazlehurst, and the odor of frying chicken was as sweet incense in the air.

Is the Product of Two Generations

The Hazlehurst incident represents more than an attitude; it is the product of two generations of thought and habit. The average Southerner hesitates to air his views on lynching because he thinks he will be misinterpreted. He always postulates that one first must understand the Negro. Every Southern white man is convinced that he does this. Take Mississippi, for example. There aren't enough white servants in the State to staff a summer hotel in December. In many towns a white barber was never seen and, if he were, no self-respecting white man would permit the interloper to lay hands upon his person.

The term "body servant," in general use before the Civil War, survives. Virtually all the whites of means have been tended by Negro nurses and cradled by Negro "mammies." The tie that binds the "aristocratic" (still a good word in Mississippi) Southerner to his Negro "mammy" is something very widely divergent from the motif behind the "mammy" songs of Tin Pan Alley. From a standpoint of both economics and sentiment, the majority of Southern whites would feel hopelessly lost without the blacks.

This sentiment goes even further back than the two generations. Just as one instance, Jefferson Davis, later to become President of the Southern Confederacy, left his entire household and estate in charge of a trusted Negro and his wife during absences that sometimes lasted months. None of the many critics of Jefferson Davis ever saw anything unusual in this.

An interesting point in connection with the Hattiesburg questionnaire is that, within two days after it was issued, four city dailies published in other States, but with large Mississippi circulation, had indorsed the idea. The editors of these papers contend that it is a rare thing for a prisoner to be taken from jail in the face of determined resistance. An occasional exception only proves the rule, but many thinking persons would question whether there need be exceptions, according to the general tenor of the conservative press throughout the South.

Thirteen Killed as Mob Storms Jail

Thirty odd years ago a mob tried to storm the jail of Birmingham, Ala., to get a white man, Hawes, charged with the brutal murder of his wife and daughters. Birmingham was a "boom" town then in the widest sense, with a population of 60,000 and prosperous suburbs, thronging with miners and new rich, gambling wide open and houses of prostitution in alleys behind all the shops and on main streets over the saloons. It was what nowadays might have been called hard-boiled. Perhaps half the men carried revolvers when they went out nights.

The Sheriff was Joseph Smith, small in stature and large in determination. His jail stood across a stone-flagged driveway from the Jefferson County Court House. He armed a dozen deputies, whom he stationed at the blind end of this driveway. Then he drew an imaginary line at the other end and urged the mob, which included many professional and business men, to respect it. When they refused, thirteen fell dead and a score wounded at the first volley. The mob was broken up and the jail was never stormed again.

There is a classic story in Southern Mississippi of a Sheriff who had been advised by friends that a mob wanted to lynch a Negro in his jail. The Sheriff was advised to have a good alibi by attending a dance that night. He did so, but just as the mob, with pickaxes and crow bars, was tearing a hole in the side of the prison, the official, who had a strong sense of property values, could stand the thought no longer. He hurried from the dance to the place where the mob was at work and shouted: "Wait, boys, don't ruin that good jail! Wait a minute and I'll unlock the door for you."

Still another, this one with its locale just across the river in Louisiana, of a mob that moved twice to keep from hanging its victim in the corporate limits of a town. When the rope was thrown over the third tree some one in the crowd cried: "Wait, this is in town, too. Remember, they just extended the corporate limits." "Yes, but that extension hasn't been ratified by the voters yet," called back the ringleader of the mob, and the lynching proceeded.

These grim jests, and a score of their kind, are known to the propounders of the Hattiesburg questionnaire. A considerable element of the Mississippi press professes to see salvation in the Forrest County idea. A not inconsiderable element is silent and probably will remain so. The post of Sheriff of Forrest County, carrying with it the functions of tax collector, is lucrative. But a Mississippian has to live by the opinion of his fellows. The State feels that its lynchings are its own affairs and a considerable body of citizenry is not disposed to ask or take advice of a small minority.

NEW YORK
EVE. WORLD

JUN 15 1927

THE MURDERERS OF MISSISSIPPI

There would seem to be some drastic work for the Governor of Mississippi to do if he would spare his State the contempt of the entire Nation. The other night two Negroes, brothers, who had shot a white man in a quarrel, were taken from three officers, attempting to take them to a place of safety, and burned at the stake. It is said that as many as a thousand savages participated in this outrage. No possible excuse can be offered. There is no excuse, of course, where the outraging of a white woman is involved, but here it was merely an ordinary murder. The murderers were apprehended. There was no possibility that they would escape justice. They could have been given a speedy trial, convicted by due process of law, and promptly executed. It is impossible to believe the horrible burning of these men does not represent a savagery that must be put down by force and without mercy.

But that does not close the chapter on Mississippi mobs. The keeper of a prison at Montgomery, Ala., has been informed by the Chief of Police at Jackson that a Mississippi mob is on the way to take another Negro charged with murder from the officers of the law. Of course the Governor of Alabama will call out the entire militia if necessary to prevent this outrage. If the mob appears, of course the militia will be instructed to shoot and shoot to kill.

But what is Mississippi going to do about it? What steps will the Governor of Mississippi take? Will none of the assassins that made up the mob pay the penalty of their brutal crime? Will this be dismissed as merely another "incident"? What will Mississippi do to save herself from the denunciation of the entire Nation?

Unless that State covets the reputation of being dominated by anarchists and assassins she will act promptly and drastically.

Lynchings-1927
Discussions.

White Press, (Northern)

2393

N. Y. WORLD
MAY 28 1927

"LYNCH HIM!" IN NEW YORK

On a subway platform the other day a Negro stabbed a man and immediately the crowd began to yell "Lynch him!" Then appeared on the scene Patrolman Gosselin of the East 35th Street Station, and in a decisive manner he collared the Negro, who had already been cuffed around considerably, and hauled him off to the station house. The incident is of interest to all who give any attention to the lynching problem. The temper of the crowd unquestionably was ugly; had it been dealt with half-heartedly, as many a County Sheriff deals with a crowd, there is no telling what might have happened. But one resolute New York cop settled the whole fracas in a few seconds. The difference is that the County Sheriff secretly has a suspicion that his prisoner is going to be lynched, anyhow, and thus is licked before he appears on the steps of the jail. But the New York cop hasn't the faintest notion that his prisoner is going to be lynched, and hence when he faces a crowd he means business. One could wish for a few Patrolman Gosselins stationed at strategic points throughout the country.

N. Y. WORLD
JUN 12 1927

The Aiken Lynching

(From the Spartanburg Journal.)

Months have passed since the three Lowmans were lynched and South Carolina law and justice outraged, and time keeps flying, but there has not been a single arrest. The craven, cowardly band who perpetrated this infamy are immune to constituted authority. And yet there is the matter of conscience. Wherever they go, however untrammeled and unhampered so far as officers and law are concerned, the inner man abides all the time, and not one of them will ever enjoy normal calm or peace. "Blood will have blood," as the line in "Macbeth" runs, and whether or not retributive justice hales any one of that Aiken mob into the open and into the courts and deals out punishment commensurate with the crime, the memory of their foul deeds will constantly abide as long as there is life in their bodies.

to beat out the flames. The sadists near by promptly restrained him. Their victims were not guilty of the "usual crime"—rape. They were merely charged with having shot to death in a quarrel the white superintendent of a sawmill which employed them—and they had not been proved guilty. They were not seeking to escape; they were in the hands of the law. But, as usual, "the sheriff fired in the air." Equally as usual, "because of the darkness, the officers were unable to recognize any members of the band." If Mississippi does not find a way to identify the members of the mob and punish them then the argument for a federal lynching law once more becomes unanswerable.

NEW YORK
GRAPHIC
MAY 26 1927

Harlem Will Hear Lynch Survivor

More than 2,500 colored persons are expected to be present at the New Manhattan Casino, 155th Street and 8th Avenue tonight to hear Sam L. L. Lowman, whose family was lynched in Aiken, S. C.

Sam L. Lowman

S. R. Williams, national director of the National Negro Development Union and mayor of Harlem, is in charge.

The organization paid all expenses to bring Lowman to this city.

cent and Didn't Even Swear

Sam F. Lowman, from Aiken, S. C., arrived in New York yesterday, and one of the first things he did was call at The World office. He spoke in the drawling dialect of a South Carolina farming Negro.

"I want to thank The World for what it did about the lynching of my children, Bertha, Demon and Clarence, down in Aiken," he said, "with its campaign for the punishment of the lynchers."

"I was in the Penitentiary then, but I saw the fruits of it. There were head men in the Penitentiary with their heads hanging down—hanging down because their hands were stained with that lynching.

"I got out of jail Feb. 23, with 72 days off from my two-year sentence for good behavior. They gave me $2.30 to get to Aiken, but I went right up to Philadelphia where my children are, Dozier, Lester, Birdie and Bess. I'm not going back to Aiken.

"I'm a farming man, but I left my farm. Got nobody to help me farm. My wife was killed in the first raid, when I was working down the road. They didn't prove bootlegging on me. Nobody ever saw me drunk, or heard me cuss.

"I'm a good man with mules. Why for three counties around, if they had a horse or mule that wouldn't work, they'd say: 'Get old Sam; he'll get it out of him.' Of course, it's different in the city, with rocks and cement under your feet all the time, instead of sand. But guess I can find some mules in Philadelphia."

Lowman was being piloted around town by S. R. Williams, director of the National Negro Development Union. He will tell the story of the Aiken lynching to-night in the New Manhattan Casino, 155th Street and Eighth Avenue. The lynching was last autumn, and little was heard of it until The World revealed that officers of the law were accused of participating. The Grand Jury refused to indict any one.

"I was in the jail when they were taken out," he said. "How'd you like to be just as far as that man there, and see your children taken out to be killed. I heard them say: 'Get the old man, too.' Then somebody else say: 'Oh, he hasn't done anything.' I'm a good Baptist. Guess that's the only way I got through it."

York newspapers investigated and revealed that officers of the law were accused of participating. The Grand Jury, however, refused to indict anyone.

Lowman is a perfect type of the South Carolina colored farmer. His accents are those of the south and he speaks in a slow drawling voice. Yesterday he came to New York to thank those interested in the case of his children.

Saw Children Led Away

He said the fruits of the campaign to abolish lynching in the South were obvious to him, even while he was incarcerated in the penitentiary.

He said he had seen jail officials hanging their heads in shame. Lowman was in confinement when he saw his three children taken out to be hanged.

He heard the mob crying "Get the old man, too," he related yesterday, but others interceded for him and said he had done nothing wrong. His wife was killed in a previous raid on his farm when he was accused of being a bootlegger.

S. R. Williams, director of the National Negro Development Union, has taken charge of the visitor, while he is in New York. Since his release from the penitentiary, when he was given $2.30 for carfare, he has been staying with his four remaining children in Philadelphia, and he expects to return there and seek employment handling mules.

N. Y. WORLD
MAY 26 1927

LYNCH LAW VICTIM HAILS WORLD'S AID

Sam L. Lowman, Whose Children Were Killed by S. Carolina Mob, Visits This Paper

SAYS GUILTY WERE SHAMED

Negro Declares He Was Innocent and Didn't Even Swear

Sam F. Lowman, from Aiken, S. C., arrived in New York yesterday, and one of the first things he did was call at The World office. He spoke in the drawling dialect of a South Carolina farming Negro.

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WHILE WE WERE ALL REJOICING in the fact that, as Charles Evans Hughes has put it, Charles Lindbergh typified the spirit of America in its best aspects, came the news from Mississippi of an act of fiendishness possible only in the United States. A mob of one thousand American citizens—not foreign-born immigrants or recent arrivals from "the slums of Europe"—took two Negroes, brothers, from the hands of the sheriff, tied them to a telegraph pole, poured gasoline over them, and burned them alive. Their screams were so terrible that one member of the mob had a momentary impulse of humanity and tried

BRONX HOME NEWS
MAY 26 1927

Father of Three Aiken Lynching Victims Is to Speak Before Harlem Gathering Tonight

The story of the Aiken lynchings will be told tonight in New Manhattan Casino, 155th St. and Eighth Ave., by Sam F. Lowman, of Aiken, S. C., father of the three children hanged by a mob.

He arrived in New York yesterday, having been released from the penitentiary in February with 72 days off his two-year sentence for good behavior.

The lynching of the three children took place last autumn, but little was heard of it until New

Capital
DES MOINES
IOWA
MAY 24 1927

Little Rock's Loss.

The Little Rock people who have warned the Negroes to leave that city had better take sober thought before they actually succeed in bringing about the result.

During the war there was a general movement of the Negroes northward. They were attracted by the high wages being paid in industrial plants, particularly those connected with the production of munitions.

The south, of course, had done nothing to make life there attractive, and so when the opportunity offered great numbers packed up and left.

The effect was to open the eyes of the southerners to the economic value of the Negro. Whole towns found that without the Negro population there industries were threatened with collapse, besides a considerable investment in retail business which depended upon that population for support. There was a general scurrying about to keep the Negroes who remained, and to call some of the others back.

Little Rock of course has a large number of Negroes. It could very easily be set back ten or more years in its development if terrorism led to an exodus of its colored people. The sober citizens of the town are surely not going to let mobs and faithless public servants upset the whole course of the city's growth.

The best thing Little Rock can do for itself is to see that the perpetrators of the recent riots, and those who are now threatening violence in the future, are punished promptly and severely.

BULLETIN
NORWICH, CONN.
MAY 6 1927

LITTLE ROCK DISGRACED

Probably the explanation would be given, if a member of that Little Rock mob were asked to give the reason for the lynching and burning of a Negro in that city, that the purpose was to teach all others what might be expected if others committed such a crime.

It was of course a demonstration of mob rule, the taking into their own hands of the administration of punishment and a glaring contempt for the law. It was a case where there was no more respect for the statutes of that state than was shown by the Negro. It was an atrocious case of lynching highly disgraceful to any community in which such savagery is tolerated and allowed to go unpunished.

There is no excusing the crime charged against the black man. It doesn't appear but what he was guilty although there was no trial given to him. He was utterly deprived of his rights, justice was tied hand and foot, the law was pushed into oblivion and replaced by the wild and unrestrained demand for vengeance.

Little Rock is not the only city in which such barbarous acts have been committed, but in this day and generation it presents a sorry spectacle in a community which calls itself civilized and subject to established laws. The Negro was treated worse than any dog would be.

There was no probability but what he would be promptly and adequately dealt with under the law of that state. He wouldn't have been despatched on the spot, strung up to a pole or burned in a public square, but he would have received the penalty of the law of that state for such crime as he was convicted of, and he was entitled to a trial and to the establishment of the proof of his guilt instead of such snap judgment as prevailed. Had the death penalty been carried out following trial and conviction it would have prevented the placing of a lasting blot on the name of Little Rock and Arkansas. It would likewise have created a greater respect for law in that state.

LYNCHING BEE IN MISSISSIPPI STIRS NATION

New York City—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 69 Fifth Avenue, today telegraphed President Coolidge calling to his attention that on the very day New York and the nation were celebrating Charles Lindbergh's and America's triumph before the world in aviation, a crowd of "degenerate barbarians" in Mississippi tied two Negroes charged with murder to a telephone pole, saturated them with gasoline and burned them alive, humiliating this country before all civilization. The as yet unpunished lynching of Aiken, South Carolina, is also cited as justifying the plea that the president demand a federal anti-lynching law at the next session of congress. The telegram to President Coolidge, signed by James Weldon Johnson, secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, is as follows:

On the very day that millions of people in New York City were celebrating a feat of courage, skill, sagacity and scientific forethought, which has added lustre to the name of America throughout the civilized world, a crowd of degenerate barbarians in the state of Mississippi tied two human beings to a telephone pole saturated themwith gasoline and burned them alive, thereby besmirching the name of this land wherever civilization is known.

The victims of the Mississippi mob, the second and third respectively to be publicly murdered by unpunished mobs in that state this year, were Negroes deprived of any semblance of due process of law. It is safe to say that in no spot on earth except the southern states of America in particular the state of Mississippi, would such a degenerate and bestial violation of all decent human instincts as the burning of two human beings accused of murder, be tolerated.

The occurrence of this mob crime on the very day that New York and the nation were declaiming Charles A. Lindbergh adds weight to the demand for a federal law to extend the power of the nation to the backward, ignorant and brutal communities in which neither human life nor the constitution nor the good name of the United States is respected. May we again call to your attention at this time, the mob murder in Aiken, South Carolina, of a colored woman and two colored men, of whom one had been declared innocent in court, new trial ordered for the other two by that state's supreme court. This mob murder is as yet unpunished and the mob murderers go unmolested and flaunt their guilt.

In the name not only of the colored people of the United States, but of all the citizens with any pretense to respect for the honor of their native land, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People urges you to demand of congress at its next session the prompt enactment of a federal anti-lynching law.

GLOBE-DEMOCRAT
ST. LOUIS, MO.
MAY 5 1927

LITTLE ROCK'S RESOLUTE POLICE.

An object lesson on the lynching problem in portions of the South has been offered for some days at Little Rock. In searching for the object of its rage, a strong and infuriated mob was not content with paying one visit to police stations and even to the State Penitentiary. It reassembled at intervals, paid frequent visits to places of detention, named committees to search cells. Finding its efforts in vain it turned its resentment on Chief of Police R. C. Rotenberry, who refuses to give an answer to the mob's one clamorous question.

Undoubtedly the crime was one most likely to arouse even a self-contained community to frenzy. After the town had been moved to great compassion over the mysterious disappearance on April 12 of Floella McDonald, 11-year-old schoolgirl, and had adopted the belief that she had in some manner been lost in the high water, her body was found April 29 in the steeple of the First Presbyterian Church. That she had taken refuge in the doorway of the church during a heavy rainstorm and had been enticed within, maltreated and murdered by Lonnie Dixon, 16-year-old son of the negro janitor, is the explanation based on the confession of the vicious young criminal. It is a hideous story and the community's reaction from pity over a supposed accident to horror over a willful and atrocious crime was naturally intense, but neither would the work which a mob might do on a boy in his teens be pleasant.

The course of the officials and the grand jurors is worthy of all praise. The chief was even warned that unless he delivers up the boy or reveals his place of confinement, he will be selected as a substitute victim by Judge Lynch, and has to be guarded by armed detachments of his force. The greater ordeal will come when the murderous boy is brought out for trial. All the resolution the police can summon will then be needed. After the exhibit of courage and firmness they have given for many days, they cannot afford to falter later and destroy the force of a rebuke to mob violence that will be of wholesome influence throughout the country.

Lynchings - 1927

Discussions

White Press. (Northern).

2394

A Negro Looks at Sacco's America

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: Your splendid article, Massachusetts the Murderer, is a stinging and manly rebuke to the powers that be who are responsible for the murder of Sacco and Vanzetti. Every sentence will help to destroy the naive idea which many Americans have that this is the "land of the free and the home of the brave."

Nation 9-21-27

Of course this is no new thing; Negroes have been lynched, burned, and murdered both North and South ever since the Civil War. America is a land of oppression, murder, lynching, and crude civilization. Nowhere, so far as I know, are police so ignorant, arrogant, crude, and uncivil as in America. For my own part I have long since lost faith in America to lead the world in anything except mob rule, murder, race prejudice, and oppression.

New York, Sept. 1

THOMAS L. DABNEY,
Organizer, American Negro Labor Congress.

MOB RULE MUST BE SUPPRESSED.

THE recent convictions and severe sentences in Alabama and Georgia of those who had been guilty of whipping people because of alleged immorality will hearten every man and woman who believes in the supremacy of law. It looked for a while as though some of the States of the South were in danger of returning to the savagery of that class of people who seek to take law into their own hands.

The MANUFACTURERS RECORD has received some protests against its recent editorial denouncing these whippings, whether by hooded scoundrels or by others. No protest received has in the least changed the opinion of this paper that law and order must be maintained, regardless of temporary inconveniences of those who may suffer because of inactive sheriffs or other State or county officials. Once break down a true regard for the law, and civilization will cease.

Some years ago a friend of the writer, while in Russia, was protesting to a Government official against the severe punishment meted out by the Government to those who were sent to Siberian prisons. The reply was: "You have no right to question the Governmental affairs of Russia so long as your country is cursed with lynching, which is bringing disgrace upon some sections of America." The critic thus became the criticized one, for he could make no defense of lynching, nor can any other man defend the mob rule of lynching or that mob rule which takes men or women out of their homes, beats them savagely and then requires of them that they will swear not to divulge how they have been treated, for fear of their lives. The mob spirit which finds vent in activities of this kind lynches the sovereignty of the State itself—a greater crime than that of the criminal that is beaten or hanged. Moreover, it creates a spirit of criminality and anarchy and sows in the hearts of young people a belief that they have a right to commit any crime which may suit their convenience or give physical expression to some hatred which they may have for a supposed enemy.

If the Klan is responsible, as many claim, for these atrocious crimes of the beating of people, it can give no possible excuse that justifies its existence. If the Klan garb is used by people who do not belong to that organization, in order to shield themselves from retaliation, this only serves to show the danger of any secret hooded organization, however patriotic and good may be the resolutions which it passes or the creed which it professes. It is charged that many of those who are most active in denouncing these beatings and in demanding punishment are themselves guilty of violating the Prohibition or some other law. That is not an excuse or justification for these beatings. The violators of the Prohibition laws are undoubtedly sowing the seeds of hostility to all law, but, because they are guilty in that respect, this is no excuse for that kind of criminal activity which, disregarding law, sets at defiance the authority of the State, lynches a man or beats a man or a woman, because of some reported immorality.

The South must drive such a lawless spirit out of its people. It must punish such criminals, as Georgia has done, by sending one to the chain gang for 12 months, and as Alabama has done in sending several to the penitentiary for from eight to 10 years. To the judges and the jurors who have brought about these convictions and sentences, all honor should be given. They have helped to turn the tide away from mob rule to the rule of law and in doing that have helped to save their country.

THE SOUTH AND LYNCHING.

We have rarely mentioned, editorially or otherwise, the frequent lynching of Negroes which occur in many sections of the southern part of the United States. There are several reasons why we have not done so. First, we are loath to soil our pages with crimes committed by semi-barbarians. Second, the Negro press throughout that country is fully capable and does give due publicity to all lynching. However, the lynching of Winston Pounds at Wilmot, Ark., last week illustrates just how far the mob spirit had gone in the Southland. Pounds and his father had worked on the McGuire farm for years. They were considered hard-working, respectable citizens, never having been in any kind of trouble during their whole lives. Some time during the night Mrs. Birdie McGuire awakened and screamed. She reported that she saw the form of a Negro in the bedroom in which she and her husband were sleeping. Next day the sheriff came and arrested the younger Pounds. He was started off to prison. On their way the sheriff and his deputy took occasion to leave the prisoner unguarded, although knowing there was a threatening mob present. Of course the prisoner was taken by the mob, carried out a short distance and murdered in a most cruel manner. Mrs. McGuire, on being questioned after the lynching, admitted that she was not sure she saw a Negro or even anyone in her room.

The lynching of Pounds illustrates clearly two or three things. First, it shows on what flimsy charges Negroes are lynched. It also shows that there is co-operation between the officials

Lynchers "Losing Caste"

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People announces that there is a steadily growing expression of sentiment in the South that tends to make lynching a disreputable sport. More and more the influential agencies of the white South are putting the stamp of their disapproval on lynching and mob violence. This fact can be contrasted with 20 years ago, before the Association began its propaganda and expose of lynching. At that time editors, preachers, politicians, and even government officials either condoned or justified lynching. The Association now has in its possession evidence that most Southern editors of the larger newspapers, as well as government officials, a few politicians and some preachers, are openly opposing lynching.

BROOKLYN EAGLE

JUL 14 1927

FIXITY IN CRIMINAL LAW.

Against the Baumes Laws "and other similar automatic methods of dealing with criminals" Dr. George W. Kirchwey utters the objection that they do not make sufficient allowance for individual cases. This criticism strikes less at the Baumes Laws than at the penal code of the State as a whole.

We need not go far to find some possibly pertinent examples of dealing with the criminal separately as an individual. Lynching has not altogether ceased in the South. Lynchers hold the view that the criminal must be treated as an individual, with reference to his color, to his social standing; in other words, to matters which the statutes would exclude. Lynchers would outdo Dr. Kirchwey in their disapproval of what he calls the automatic methods prescribed by the law. So would hooded persons who make a practice in some localities of visiting and whipping those whose conduct they do not approve. They find the law's impartiality too tame, too lame.

At the other extreme is the leniency that gives preferential treatment to the influential convict. His friends also think that the law works far too impartially.

Dr. Kirchwey, presumably the last man to countenance such liberties with the law as these, has, nevertheless, missed an important implication in his objection to the automatic application of laws to crimes. Laws apparently exist for the very reason that we do not trust authority to make an individual law for each particular case. This State is indeed now engaged in an experiment in graduating penalties somewhat along the lines of individual cases; an experiment in parole and in punishment according to the number of offenses. It seeks thus to lessen the law's automatism. Friends of reform should take care not to discredit the process by sweeping condemnation of all fixity in c[illegible] nal law.

WASHINGTON, D. C.
Post
SEP 18 1927

ALABAMA'S CONSCIENCE.

Floggings in Alabama are decreasing. Judges and juries have become severe in dealing with the citizens who take the law into their own hands, and whips have lost much of their popularity as instruments of unauthorized punishment. . . .

There are still within the State of Alabama, as there are in other Commonwealths, men who take it upon themselves to administer that species of justice which in their estimation is the most effective in righting alleged, or assumed, wrongs. Ten among the citizenry of Alabama, members of a secret, oath-bound organization are today held in bonds exceeding $100,000, under indictments in which they are charged with participating in recent floggings in Jefferson County. In other counties in the State indictments have been returned by grand juries against men charged with similar violations of the law. These men are not ignorant, uneducated "crackers" or "hill billies," but are so-called reputable citizens of standing in their respective communities.

That the grand jury of Jefferson County intends to use every effort to break up the flogging proclivities of its citizens is evident from true bills returned last week. Proof that the same grand jury regards the oath-bound organizations, which relegate to themselves the right to administer punishment without trial, a menace is given by the language used in reporting its findings to the court

"When a man binds himself secretly by secret oath," the report said, "in such a way that he feels or knows that he can not come into a grand jury room or a court of justice and tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth, without violating his secret oath, he is no longer a good citizen. He is a menace rather than a value to the State, and the instigator of that state of mind thwarts the ends of justice and becomes a dire evil."

TIMES
TRENTON, N. J.
JUL 24 1927

BOOKER WASHINGTON'S WARNING

Now that not alone Negroes but whites as well have become subject to sumptuary "justice" at the hands of southern mobs, a correspondent of the Baltimore Sun reminds Americans generally of what Booker T. Washington said 23 years ago to an Alabama audience relative to lynching, burning and flogging:

"Just as sure as you allow injustice to be perpetrated against my people with impunity," he declared, "the day will come when those who are allowed to deal out injustice against my poor, defenseless people will turn on you. Just as sure as you live, you will not be able to protect members of the white race from mob violence if you allow matters to remain as they are."

Dr. Washington cautioned the whites that southern prosperity and the mob spirit would not travel together. Coming to a later date, we note a dispatch from North Carolina on Friday last in which Julian Harris, editor of the Columbus (Ga.) Enquirer-Sun, inveighed against illiteracy and intolerance as a present menace to the progress of the South.

It is high time the South waked from the narrow prejudices of race and religion and put a quietus upon the grossly ignorant element that would ride superior to law and fair play.

JOURNAL
MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.
DEC 13 1927

A Lesson for Lynchers

The lyncher is not only a brute at heart, but a coward as well. Wherefore, he is usually most unwilling to do his lynching at the risk of his own skin. His yearning for quick justice is not so intense that he will gratify it at his own expense. Satisfied that deadly weapons will really be used in defense of the prisoner whose lynching is projected, the mob stays its hands, forgets its blood lust.

All of which MARK TWAIN pointed out many years ago in a chapter of *Huckleberry Finn*, and which a North Carolina judge and sheriff demonstrated anew last Sunday, when a display of armed force, and a few warning shots fired through a ceiling, quickly tamed a group bent upon dealing summarily with the trembling Negro prisoner at the bar.

Almost equally effective as a means of turning a bloodthirsty mob into a mere mass of sheepish spectators, is reasonable certainty that the lynchers will later be held to answer to the law. Years ago when a lynching mob formed in a Central Minnesota community, a cool-headed citizen consented to join the hanging party, if the members would agree to organize, elect captains and lieutenants, do their lynching in an orderly manner, and later assume full responsibility. Naturally, there was no lynching just then.

Snatch the protection of anonymity and irresponsibility away from a mob, and the odds are great that its members will thereafter manifest little more heat than an apartment house radiator at three o'clock in the morning.

Lynching continues in a few of the backwaters of American civilization, not because lynching mobs are invincible, but because the men whose duty it is to uphold the law are poltroons. No community in which even a minority of the influential citizens are against lynching need tolerate it.

COURIER-CITIZEN
LOWELL, MASS.
DEC 15 1927

The recent trial and conviction of a Negro in North Carolina for a peculiarly atrocious murder has its good and its bad side—a bad side, because an angry mob stormed the courthouse and threatened to execute summary justice upon the culprit; a good side, because the militia force was called out and maintained order until the law had spoken its verdict. On the whole the incident is favorable, for, if mob-rule is thus frequently suppressed, the people will gradually become educated to the point of allowing the courts to pronounce on even the most aggravated cases without making any fuss about it. Under conditions as they are, there seems actually less reason for mob violence in the South than in the northern states. Vexatious delays and failures in the execution of justice are at present most common north of Mason and Dixon's line. A murderer—at least a Negro murderer—is promptly dealt with as a rule by the courts in the states where the race is considered a real problem. He may not always receive justice—but at any rate he gets no favors, and mobs scarcely need to interfere.

BULLETIN
NORWICH, CONN.
DEC 15 1927

THE RIGHT COURSE

While certain of the southern states where the lynching spirit has prevailed to a greater or lesser extent have shown a disposition to apply restraint, it calls for effective control on the part of the authorities when a crisis develops if lawlessness is to be suppressed.

A case which has received much attention was that at Goldsboro, N. C., where a young Negro was under trial for causing the death of a girl. Unwilling to wait for the completion of the evidence in a case where there seemed to be no doubt of conviction, relatives of the dead girl planned and tried to accomplish the removal of the accused from the court room while the trial was underway. It failed and the schemers were restrained. The trial proceeded with the judge displaying a revolver on his desk and with the state troopers doing duty in the court room.

Within a short time the case was submitted to the jury and in less than a half hour it has brought in a verdict of guilty, followed by the imposition of a sentence of execution early next month.

Through the manner in which the authorities of North Carolina stood by the laws of that commonwealth the mob was prevented from placing a blot on the good name of that state, where it must be said in all fairness lynching has never received the encouragement that has existed in some of the other states. It was an example to other states and their officials who have submitted to mob demands under similar circumstances and witnessed not only the shooting or hanging of accused persons but also the burning of their bodies.

Had the mob at Goldsboro been permitted to have its way the accused, without being convicted, would probably be in his grave. Through the compliance with the legal process it will be only a matter of a few days before he will be put to death in the manner prescribed by the laws of the state, and it is greatly to the credit of the courts and [illegible] authorities of North Carolina that they insisted upon such a course.

Lynchings-1927
Discussions,

White Press. (Northern)

2395

WATERTOWN, N. Y.
Times
JUN 3 1927

MAKING LYNCHINGS UNPOPULAR.

Lynching is becoming an unhealthy outdoor sport in Florida. A mob in Tampa a few days ago decided to take the law in its own hands and lynch B. J. Levins who was accused of murdering five persons. Levins, by the way, is white. The man is probably guilty. In fact he admitted his guilt. And without a doubt he will pay the penalty for his crime according to the due process of the law.

A mob of several hundred persons tried to storm the jail where he was confined. It met with determined opposition. When it was apparent that the force defending the jail was not sufficient, the governor of Florida immediately ordered out the national guard and the jail property was virtually put under martial law. Even then the mob was determined to go ahead with its program. The national guard had different ideas. The mob has cooled off now. Levins is saved from violence. The law will take care of his case.

A smirch upon the name of Florida has been averted. It was at a high price, but it was worth it. Five are dead and thirty or more are injured. Some of the victims might have been innocent bystanders, but that is usually the case. It is unfortunate but they should have remembered that they were in the danger zone when they were congregating even as spectators.

It was only a few months ago that another lynching crowd in Florida decided to have a necktie party. The sheriff in charge of the prisoner appeared on the steps of the jail with a doublebarreled shotgun draped carelessly over his arm. He announced that the first member of the mob who advanced beyond the jail sidewalk would be perforated with buckshot and that he was saving the contents of the second barrel for the next one. None of the mob craved the rare distinction of being first over the line, and the mob went home and called it a day.

A good many lynchings result because the sheriff in charge of the prisoner is licked as quick as the mob appears. He knows that he cannot repel the crowd and weakly surrenders the keys. A mob is merely a crowd of men who are too cowardly to act alone. Intimate contact with each other gives what passes for courage. But when they meet even one determined man who has the nerve and the courage to stand up in front of them, the mob quickly disintegrates into cowardly individuals who have no stomach for doing anything which might involve risking their lives. Needed force in the beginning will stop lynchings before they start. Florida has the right idea.

JOURNAL
FLINT, MICH.
MAY 6 1927

Mob Rule in Arkansas.

The good record of the south in trying to stamp out race riots and lynchings has been clouded by the disorders in Little Rock, Arkansas, in which a negro was lynched and burned on a funeral pyre in the sight of several thousand citizens who casually looked on.

Mob passions had been fanned into flame by an incident occurring a few days earlier when a negro boy, a church sexton's son, admitted that he had murdered a white child after luring her into the belfry of the church. The boy and his father were rescued from the mob and taken out of the city by the police, but the incident was enough to start another mob on the war path when attacks on two white women were reported later. The negro lynched, John Carter, was believed to have been guilty of the attacks, but nobody knew that he actually was guilty. And nobody was inclined to give the law a chance to find out.

Atrocious crimes demand severe and swift punishment, but every shred of decency and of civilization is stripped from a collection of otherwise respectable citizens who attempt to take the law into their own hands and to act in a judicial capacity while inflamed with the unreasonableness of suspicion and the lust for killing. If the law of fang and claw still rules man at times, it is, nine time out of ten, when men assemble in mobs. At that moment the inhibitions of civilization fall away. Leaders of thought generally recognize that the mob is the most dangerous element of society and of all social security. For in it the individual will, no matter how fair and how highly developed, is in danger of bowing to the mob will which is a strange and powerful human emotion that few can analyze and few resist.

The state of Arkansas is doing its best by ushering in martial law at Little Rock. That action is commendable, and indicates that the state officials, like those in other southern states, are out of sympathy with government by violence. The real test of sincerity will come, however, when an attempt is made to find the mob leaders and punish them, as another southern state punished a mob not long ago by sending its leaders to prison.

N. Y. WORLD
MAY 5 1927

JURIES AND LYNCHING

In Arkansas after a Grand Jury had indicted a Negro for murder it took cognizance of mob demonstrations that had followed his arrest and issued a warning that it would take action against any persons who made further attempt to take the law into their own hands. And this is surely a hopeful sign. The weak point in all plans to do away with lynching has been the jury itself. Pass the harshest kind of legislation against lynching, and if juries will not indict and convict, it all goes for naught. But when people know that a jury means business a lynching bee does not appear quite so tempting. This Arkansas jury has probably done more to avert violence in this particular case than could be done in any other way.

NEWS
Urbana Ill
MAY 16 1927

THEY REGULATED TRAFFIC

A colored man was lynched in an Arkansas city the other day. After being hanged and shot full of bullets, his body was taken to a street corner in the negro section of town and burned.

The city where this happened was a good-sized, ordinarily well-regulated city. Probably you're wondering—"here were the police while all of this was going on?"

Well, the last paragraph of the news dispatch that told of the lynching, reads:

"The police directed traffic, which congested the streets for blocks around the scene."

NEW YORK
Mail & Eve. Telegram
MAY 7 1927

Authority Afraid of Mob.

GOVERNOR MARTINEAU of Arkansas says that he is convinced the police and Sheriff's forces could have prevented the lynching of John Carter in Little Rock last Wednesday.

His opinion is borne out by the attitude of local newspapers which are severe in their criticism of city and county authorities. It is also borne out by the explanations of Mayor Moyer and Alderman Bilheimer. Mayor Moyer declares that the City Council's decision not to order police interference with the mob probably saved the lives of 250 citizens.

Alderman Bilheimer, who was acting Mayor at the time of the lynching, indorses this view, explaining that the mob was in no humor for argument.

NEWS
BELOIT, WIS.
MAY 6 1927

LITTLE ROCK'S SHAME

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., has disgraced itself with a most atrocious lynching.

A negro there was hanged. Then his dangling body was bullet-riddled. Next it was dragged for miles through the streets. Finally it was publicly burned.

There are no further refinements of fiendishness that blood-lusting imagination can suggest as having been lacking in this hellish performance.

The lynching victim was guilty. At any rate, he confessed.

But by taking him out of the hands of the law and murdering him in the most barbarous fashion, 400 or more Little Rock citizens, living in a civilized country and age, stained their own souls with a crime as dark by plunging into an orgy of murder and blood-lust comparable to the outbursts of sadism of a victorious Iroquois war party.

The savage Indians who tortured their war prisoners to death had something to excuse their acts. They were unredeemed primitives, amoral barbarians, with no influences of civilized environment to teach them anything better.

The Little Rock mob honed its ferocity upon the fact that a courageous sheriff a few days previous had refused to give up another negro to suffer similar summary death by lynching. They all but lynched the sheriff when he made a bold stand to uphold the dignity and the decency of law and civilized procedure.

The community of Little Rock has covered itself with shame.

The foreman of the grand jury says the lynching will be investigated. But he refuses to predict any indictments. What would be the use? These lynching orgies never have any real retributive sequels in courts of justice.

N. Y. WORLD

MAY 7 1927

AN ARKANSAS LYNCHING

On Tuesday, at Little Rock, Ark., the Grand Jury indicted a Negro for murder. At the same time it took cognizance of disorder that had attended his arrest and announced that it would take action against any persons who made further attempt to take the law into their own hands. Wednesday another Negro, accused of an attack on two white women, was lynched. Will the Grand Jury make good on its threat? If it does, and prosecution is energetic, so that at least the leaders of the mob are punished, a great step will have been taken toward the abolition of lynching. So far, the weak spot in all attempts to deal with lynching has been the jury itself, which refuses to indict and convict. This Little Rock jury now has its chance.

ST. LOUIS, MO.
Star
MAY 4 1927

OUTWITTING THE MOB.

It is to the high credit of Arkansas in general and the officials of Little Rock in particular that the stain of a lynching has been saved that state and city. It is such backbone that gives hope that the crime of lynching will eventually be banished from the American commonwealth. The fury of the mob was great and is easily understandable. A heinous crime had been committed against a child, and court processes in Arkansas have not been overly rapid in punishing those guilty. In this particular case there seems to be no doubt as to the guilty person, for the son of the church janitor had confessed. The mob was therefore bent upon taking immediate and terrible vengeance.

Police officials, however, knew the temper of their neighbors. The negro boy was spirited away from Little Rock and his place of hiding kept secret by those who could be trusted. The mob milled around the jail, convinced itself that the boy was not there, visited the penitentiary and was permitted to satisfy itself that it did not harbor the criminal, and was finally dispersed by Little Rock police and firemen.

Disappointed of their victim, the incensed mob gathered again in front of the home of the chief of police, threatening violence to him unless he disclosed the whereabouts of his prisoner. It is to his credit as a man and as an official that he did not flinch before such intimidation. The mob is still searching, but the prisoner remains safe until the regular process of law can deal with his case.

Arkansas thus follows the lead of Louisiana and Kentucky in protecting its prisoners against the mob. It is a splendid tribute to the new sentiment that is being brought about with regard to this crime against government.

STAR
Nevarre
MAY 6 1927

CIVILIZATION IN ACTION

The body of a Negro who had been hanged and riddled with bullets for an alleged attack upon a white woman and her daughter, was dragged by an automobile through the streets of Little Rock, then saturated with gasoline and burned at one of the principal corners of the colored section of this Arkansas city. The dispatches said, "Police, outnumbered, directed traffic, which congested the streets for blocks around the scene."

What a dismal spectacle of the failure of civilization this barbarous scene was. Had this brutal mob lynching occurred in any other province except the South to any other American citizen, the state department would be knotting the wires for an explanation. Yet in Little Rock, the populace gathers, the police become attentive to traffic conditions for the time being, and the law of the noose and the torch reign. There is little difference between the beheading of Chinese pirates when the Chinese rabble gathers, as it has done for centuries to witness the orgy, and this mob action in Arkansas.

We have no knowledge whether this man was guilty or innocent. And the mob which destroyed his life must have had less. There is no excusing his crime, if guilty; yet he might have been accorded the privilege of a trial. There were seventeen lynchings in the United States in 1925, and each additional one rolls back the curtain of civilization at least a score years.

COLUMBUS, O.
Citizen
MAY 12 1927

THEY REGULATED TRAFFIC

A COLORED man was lynched in an Arkansas city the other day. After being hanged and shot full of bullets, his body was taken to a street corner and burned.

Probably you're wondering—"Where were the police while all of this was going on?"

Well, the last paragraph of the news dispatch that told of the lynching reads:

"The police directed traffic, which congested the streets for blocks around the scene."

BULLETIN
NORWICH, CONN.
MAY 7 1927

NOT BEING CONDONED

Locking the barn after the horse has been stolen is not regarded as the best method, but there is bound to be watched with keen interest the result of the attitude which has been displayed by the governor of Arkansas over the lynching of a Negro at Little Rock. According to Governor Martineau he is convinced that police and sheriff's forces could have averted the disorder and might have prevented the lynching. He doen't say so, but he intimates that he would proceed to take action if he had the power of removal.

It was one of those instances where no resistance was apparently offered to the mob. They were permitted to do as they pleased, to commit murder, to defy the law, to indulge in the worst kind of lawlessness and it is by no means surprising that the governor indicates where he believes the responsibility for much of it lies.

There have been numerous other instances where efforts have been made to accomplish similar results, but the recognition by the sheriff or other authorities of their responsibility under the law has served to prevent it. It wasn't accomplished without effort, without the display of courage or without making an appeal to the mob. But Little Rock officials do not appear to have been awake to their duty. They regarded the easiest way as the best way. They were disposed to let the mob have its own way regardless of the law, which they had sworn to uphold, because there was an element of danger in doing otherwise. They were concerned with their own safety and were no more interested in supporting the law than the mob itself.

It is only natural that the governor should be aroused by such a situation. He is concerned for the good name of the state over which he presides. What the result will be of the grand jury investigation will be followed with interest, since the whole affair calls for the adequate punishment of all those who were concerned in the lynching for unless such is done it will only serve as an encouragement to further acts of that kind whatever the provocation may be. Governor Martineau is certainly not condoning the atrocity.

N. Y. WORLD

MAY 26 1927

LYNCH LAW VICTIM HAILS WORLD'S AID

Sam L. Lowman, Whose Children Were Killed by S. Carolina Mob, Visits This Paper

SAYS GUILTY WERE SHAMED

Negro Declares He Was Innocent and Didn't Even Swear

Sam F. Lowman, from Aiken, S. C., arrived in New York yesterday, and one of the first things he did was call at The World office. He spoke in the drawling dialect of a South Carolina farming Negro.

"I want to thank The World for what it did about the lynching of my children, Bertha, Demon and Clarence, down in Aiken," he said, "with its campaign for the punishment of the lynchers."

"I was in the Penitentiary then, but I saw the fruits of it. There were head men in the Penitentiary with their heads hanging down—hanging down because their hands were stained with that lynching.

"I got out of jail Feb. 23, with 72 days off from my two-year sentence for good behavior. They gave me $2.30 to get to Aiken, but I went right up to Philadelphia where my children are, Dozier, Lester, Birdie and Bess. I'm not going back to Aiken.

"I'm a farming man, but I left my farm. Got nobody to help me farm. My wife was killed in the first raid, when I was working down the road. They didn't prove bootlegging on me. Nobody ever saw me drunk, or heard me cuss.

"I'm a good man with mules. Why for three counties around, if they had a horse or mule that wouldn't work, they'd say: 'Get old Sam; he'll get it out of him.' Of course, it's different in the city, with rocks and cement under your feet all the time, instead of sand. But guess I can find some mules in Philadelphia."

Lowman was being piloted around town by S. R. Williams, director of the National Negro Development Union. He will tell the story of the Aiken lynching to-night in the New Manhattan Casino, 155th Street and Eighth Avenue. The lynching was last autumn, and little was heard of it until The World revealed that officers of the law were accused of participating. The Grand Jury refused to indict any one.

"I was in the jail when they were taken out," he said. "How'd you like to be just as far as that man there, and see your children taken out to be killed. I heard them say: 'Get the old man, too.' Then somebody else say: 'Oh, he hasn't done anything.' I'm a good Baptist. Guess that's the only way I got through it."

Lynchings-1927
Discussions.

White Press, (Northern.)

2396

"They Are Too Often Subjected to Thoughtless and Inconsiderate Treatment."

—President Coolidge in his message to Congress.

Daily Worker
12-9-27
New York, N. Y.

LYNCHING DENOUNCED

Gov. Byrd of Virginia Wants Mob Members Punished.

RICHMOND, Va., Dec. 1 (A. P.).—Gov. Harry F. Byrd has given warning that lynch law will not be countenanced in Virginia.

Describing a recent lynching near the Virginia-Kentucky border as a "dastardly and cold-blooded crime," Gov. Byrd declared in a statement issued last night that "it is full time for Virginia to make an example of those committing the crime of lynching and to punish the guilty as other murderers are punished."

Thesupport of Virginia was pledged to Kentucky in running down those responsible for the recent incident.

"This crime," the Governor said, "should arouse the people of Virginia to the necessity of drastic punishment so that a nexample will be made of those who commit murder in the mobs as well as those who commit murder as individuals."

The lynching in question occurred after a mob had broken into the Whitesburg, Ky., jail and seized a negro charged with the slaying of a white man.

NEW YORK
SUN and GLOBE
DEC 1 1927

NEW YORK TIMES
DEC 17 1927

SAYS LYNCHINGS CALL FOR DAY OF PENITENCE

Council of Churches Sets Feb. 12 as 'Race Relations Sunday' to Atone for Mob Violence.

A day of penitence and prayer that the United States may be purged of lynching and mob violence was called for yesterday by the Federal Council of Churches in a statement issued from its headquarters, 105 East Twenty-second Street, through its Commission on Race Relations. The day designated is Feb. 12, which will be known as "Race Relations Sunday."

"Lynching is a crime which leaves its stain upon us all," the statement declared. "Any community that flouts the dignity of the law and courts of justice opens the way to the violent rule of the mob throughout the nation.

"It assaults the very ideals upon which our civilization is dependent. A nation's penitence and prayer must be summoned both to check the lynching evil and to build up deeper respect for the processes of justice and new sympathetic understanding among all the people. In the attitude of penitence and the atmosphere of prayer the best things come forth.

"The sobering fact that more than four thousand people have been victims of lynching in our country has filled all the people of good-will with a sense of horror and shame. That mob violence should have continued through the years so that in 1926 there were as many as thirty persons lynched in the United States is so flagrantly opposed to the progress of right and brotherhood that all who are committed to the way of Christ are asked to observe a day of penitence and prayer that our American nation may be purged of that blot upon its civilization."

NEW YORK
EVE. WORLD
DEC 1 1927

GOV. BYRD SCORES NEGRO LYNCHING

Promises Aid in Punishing Men Who Hanged Killer

RICHMOND, Dec. 1 (A. P.)—Virginia's aid toward bringing to justice the members of the mob that lynched a Negro killer on the border was offered to Kentucky last night by Gov. Harry F. Byrd.

"If the lynching occurred on Virginia territory every resource of the State will be extended to the local authorities to apprehend and punish the perpetrators of this outrage," Gov. Byrd announced. "If the act took place on the Kentucky side and Virginians participated every aid will be extended to the Kentucky authorities."

The lynching, he said, was "a dastardly and cold-blooded crime without the slightest justification."

STAR
Alameda Cal.
DEC 3 1927

GEOGRAPHICAL MORALITY

Morality is a matter of geography, but that axiom is usually accepted as having reference to climate. Sometimes, however, it seems that regions identical as regards soil and climate may be sharply dissimilar in point of morals.

For instance, in one southern state Sunday golf is prohibited and special officers are commissioned to depopulate the links on the Sabbath by dragging the law-breakers into court. At the same time, recent history reveals that there is no legal penalty inflicted on those who lynch negroes in that state, even though the lynching take place on Sunday.

Only an imaginary line separates that state from North Carolina. Climatically they are much the same, and the same racial stocks inhabit both commonwealths. Yet in North Carolina one can play Sunday golf to his heart's content, but negroes cannot be lynched with immunity on any day whatsoever. There is not only a penalty for lynching, but it is a severe one and is commonly inflicted ruthlessly.

Why one state should reverse the moral code of the other we leave to sociologists to puzzle out. But people who are annoyed by having the streets all littered up with corpses ought not to find it difficult to decide which state is the best in which to live.

Not less puzzling is the dissimilarity in the moral code of the city with that of the country just beyond the city limits. And still stranger is the fact that individuals sometimes preach a different code of morals from that they practice, and that what may be moral to one is highly immoral under the standards of another.

MORNING POST
JAMESTOWN, N. Y.
DEC 13 1927

LEGAL TRIAL VS. LYNCHING.

In lynchings the South has had a less commendable record this year than for a year or two previously, but were the determination exhibited by North Carolina officers, wherein an attempt was made to seize a prisoner from a court, always manifest by those charged with carrying out the law through orderly process, there would be fewer mob executions. Not only was the effort to take the prisoner frustrated, the speed with which he was arrested, tried and sentenced to death was equally notable. Since criticisms of the supineness of Southern officers have been applied when there was failure to resist lynchings, an illustration of the opposite course deserves notice.

It appears that the prisoner had been placed on trial for killing a young girl. While the case was in progress an effort was made to take the man from the custody of the court. By prompt action of the officers this was prevented. The trial proceeded with a huge automatic pistol lying at the hand of the judge. The presence of a company of the National Guard cowed any who might still have preferred to lynch the prisoner rather than permit him to be tried in due form. Within 60 hours of the time of the commission of the crime the murderer had been convicted and sentenced to death.

There is evidence that many in the South have felt the disgrace that has attached itself to that section through mobs setting aside the law. An example of prompt trial such as this case afforded removes all ground for the excuse of the law's delay sometimes offered for lynching. There might be no reason ordinarily to exhibit speed so great as in the North Carolina instance, yet with benefit to society and the execution of the law could

murder trials in the North hastened.

PRESS
BURLINGTON, VT.
DEC 28 1927

Lynch Law vs Court

If there was ever a crime that would inevitably generate the mob spirit, it is the terrible and cruel fate which little Marian Parker suffered at the hands of the insufferable degenerate Hickman.

One can readily understand the cries of indignation that greeted the train conveying the confessed slayer of this little girl as it passed through different towns.

This is a case in which lynch law would be fitting, inasmuch as hanging or the electric chair is too mild for such a wretch. Yet the spirit of law and order is pathetically exemplified by the father of the murdered girl who pleads that the law may be allowed to take its course with the murderer of his precious daughter.

BROOKLYN EAGLE
DEC 22 1927

LYNCHING IS ANARCHY

Editor Brooklyn Daily Eagle:

An editorial published by a Bainbridge, Ga., editor and reproduced and commented upon in a number of newspapers deserves public consideration at this time. This editor, E. H. Griffin of the Bainbridge Post-Searchlight, still defends the barbarous crime of lynching. His utterance has received well-merited rebuke from such outstanding newspapers as the Columbus, Ga., Sun and the Dothan, Ala., Eagle. Does Editor Griffin feel, when a mob avenges the crime of crimes, as is frequently done, by burning a human being at the stake while women and children look on, that civilization is being saved?

But Editor Griffin's statements, implying that the crime of lynching always avenges the crime of violation, that "law or no law, justice or no justice, tolerance or no tolerance," when a brute outrages a woman "the hemp rope is just as certain as sin" merit further comment.

Let those facts be here restated:

There have been 92 women lynched in the United States during the past 40 years.

Out of the upwards of 4,000 recorded victims of lynching mobs in this country less than one in five has even been accused of the crime under consideration, and it should be borne in mind in this connection that accusation and execution by a mob in the often whisky-sodden atmosphere of brutal passion is not calculated to establish guilt or innocence, a function for which the entire structure of law and the courts is designed.

The crime of lynching shames the entire country before the civilized world. It can hardly be adduced as proof of the superior culture of the race in whose hands government and the courts rest when they deliberately trample their own institutions of law and orderly processes in the mire, often making a holiday scene of an act of inhumanity and savagery.

Is it not time that apologists for lynching be recognized for precisely what they are—the most dangerous of anarchists and advocates of the lawlessness against which all decent United States citizens of whatever race, color or section must stand united in their common citizenship and faith in America?

JAMES W. JOHNSON,
Secretary, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People

PRESS-GAZETTE
GREEN BAY, WIS.
DEC 28 1927

THE ROAD TO LYNCH LAW.

Hickman has confessed, as it was altogether likely he would do, that he murdered as well as kidnaped Marian Parker. His lawyers will tell the court and jury that he is a paranoiac. In other words, he is of the type which commits a crime while temporarily insane and under the delusion that he is a superman commissioned to avenge a wrong or to amaze the world with some diabolical act.

For the most part these are the inventions of alleged alienists virtually bribed to testify to any theory set up by a resourceful criminal lawyer who brazenly uses his talent to outwit the law and defeat justice. They are a travesty on our whole system of justice and in the background they are responsible for the great American let-down in holding criminals responsible for their deeds. This is the explanation of our rampant lawlessness and the lightness with which we treat an ordinary murder. The freeing of Harry Thaw literally made hundreds of murderers. The saving of Loeb and Leopold probably cost Perry Parker of Los Angeles the life of his daughter. The Remus burlesque show down in Cincinnati will help to swell the army of wife murderers.

We do not know what California is going to do with Hickman. If it does not do its duty and give this arch-fiend what is coming to him it had better look out for mob violence. If ever there was a case in which a private hanging or a burning at stake was justified, it would be that of Hickman. A little more of jury and court folderol with murderers and we shall be back on a lynching basis again. One extreme leads to another. Whether it is to our credit or not, there are plenty of red-blooded men in the United States ready to take the law into their own hands where justice is perverted by lawyers who are little better than crooks, by political judges who are not above bribe-taking, and by feeble-minded jurors.

Lynchings—1927
Discussions

White Press, (Northern.)

2397

Nation-2-15-27

PEONAGE AND LYNCHING are blood brothers. A federal grand jury has brought indictments against two Mississippi farmers for violation of the peonage law, and the investigation in that State and in Louisiana has only just begun. The system of enslavement is simple and effective; Negro tenant farmers have no money; the plantation stores are ready to furnish credit, payment for goods purchased to be made out of the proceeds of the crop. No accounts are kept, and when the season is over the Negro finds that he owes the plantation-owner money which he must take out in work the following year. Negroes who protest are, if the owner is a polite and generous-hearted fellow, kicked quietly outdoors. More drastic action, however, has been known to result from too much temerity. Where the black man is illiterate, impoverished, and ignorant of his civil rights he has no protection whatever from this sort of exploitation. And lynching is only one step away. The latest mob murder—as we go to press—took place on February 1 in Texas. Jailed for cutting a white man's throat, a Negro was sent by the sheriff, who feared "foul play," in an automobile with two deputies to the nearest town where proper protection might be expected. All the usual things happened and the Negro was hanged. The mob was unmasked; a young woman in town, according to the Houston *Press*, said she knew three hours before that the lynching was to take place and was sorry that her work prevented her from attending. The sheriff declared that he was "making every effort to find the leaders of the mob," but "it is very difficult. There were many strangers in town [Conroe, Texas, population about 500] that day, and no one was able to get a good description of the men."

Lynching and Golf In So. Carolina

By WILLIAM PICKENS.

GOVERNOR RICHARDS of South Carolina is certainly interested in stopping golf playing at Aiken. He knows it is wicked for the people in the winter resort there to play golf or polo on Sunday. He is therefore using all the powers of his office, and all the offices under his command, and is even defying the higher courts of the state in his righteous zeal to stop a harmless sport or two. He says that he will send every constable of the state to Aiken, if necessary, to stop the games and arrest the "criminals" who are driving an inanimate ball across the fields there.

But this same governor cannot do a thing about the lynching of three human beings—one of the most savage acts ever committed by man against man. Of course, Mr. Richards "talked big" about what he would, or rather would not, do just before he came into office. But that talk had a purpose; the whole world had its eye on Aiken and on South Carolina at that time, and the incoming governor was simply "posing for the picture." Those of us who have had experience with his "god-fearing" kind, knew that the talk was simply for momentary effect.

Daily Worker

The righteous "talk" by this governor, and also that by some of the newspapers of the state, had also another definite purpose: TO KEEP DOWN ANY RISING SENTIMENT IN FAVOR OF AN ANTI-LYNCHING LAW OF CONGRESS. The objective was to fool the north, and to hoodwink northern papers into saying: "The south is all right; they are as much opposed to that murder as anybody else. Just give them a chance." The north is easily fooled in such cases; they seem to want to be fooled; they like to believe, in order to escape the sternness of the realities and to be able to wash their hands—and feel righteous also. The religious development of the world has at least caused man to want to deceive themselves into feeling righteous. The north likes to feel: "Oh, yes, yes, we are opposed to lynch murder all right, and we would do something to stop it if we did not see that the south is going to stop it themselves." And men indulge in a lot of mush about the "liberal sentiment" of the south, "the advancing south," and other such sleeping potions which they give themselves in order to escape the inevitable conflict. Governor Richards knows this. That other governor who went out of office, knew it. And so both of them indulged in a lot of religious talk to the public galleries, until the natural resentment of mankind cooled sufficiently—and now they have all settled back to await the next horrible lynching.

* * *

Meanwhile, South Carolina is determined that little hard rubber balls shall not be driven into certain holes on a Sunday, a thing which, if wrong at all, could only be wrong on Sundays. But murder, which is wrong every day in the week and every minute in every day—about that, South Carolina does nothing. The governor is even using as his right-hand man in the crusade against golfers, the sheriff, Nollie Robinson, who was also the right-hand man of the lynchers.

I was born in South Carolina. I am not boasting; I am just mentioning the fact. If South Carolina was not such a savage reality to Negro-Americans, it would be the world's best joke.

WORCESTER, MASS.
Telegram
FEB 4 1927

Law and Order In the South

The charge of abduction, sale and enslavement of a family of five Negroes in Mississippi, the testimony that cotton pickers on a Texas farm were held under armed guard last fall and threatened with death if they attempted to escape, and the lynching of a Negro in Texas indicate that law and order have yet to be established in parts of the South.

The slain Negro had been charged with attacking and robbing a white man. While in the custody of two officers he was seized by a party of about 40 unmasked white men and hanged. These officers report that resistance would have been useless. They say they recognized nine of the mob. If this recognition leads to punishment there may be vindication of their living up to the idea that discretion is the better part of valor. If they had fought on behalf of the Negro they probably would have been killed by the angry preservers of "law and order"; the Negro would have been hanged just the same. In short, more lives would have been lost with no gain anywhere for anybody. That's one way of looking at it.

But suppose all police officers throughout the country suddenly decided never to fight bandits or offenders of any kind except when victory seemed fairly certain. Suppose police officers always refrained from resisting law breakers whenever "resistance would have been useless." Isn't a policeman supposed to be ready to risk his life to save others from violence?

BROOKLYN TIMES
FEB 17 1927

Prohibition and Lynching.

Dr. Kelly Miller, the Dean of Howard University, told an inter-race meeting at Atlantic City on February 14 that lynchings in the United States "have decreased almost to the vanishing point since Prohibition." The statistics show that in 1917 there were 50 cases of lynching. The figures for the years following are these: 1918, 67; 1919, 83; 1920, 65; 1921, 64; 1922, 61; 1923, 28; 1924, 16; 1925, 18; 1926, 29. It is quite obvious then that if the number of lynchings be a barometer of the sobriety of the American people under Prohibition, the American people were very drunk in 1920, scarcely less so in the following year, a degree less so in 1922. In 1923 they stopped drinking practically, since they lynched only 28 people that year. What little they had in 1923 they dispensed with almost altogether in 1924, when only 16 people were lynched. They must have been a little more thirsty in 1925 because in that year they lynched 18 persons, and strange to say in 1926 inebriety accounted for 29 lynchings. Perhaps the lynchings and Prohibition are entirely unrelated and the decrease in the number of lynchings result from other causes.

TOPICS OF THE TIMES.

South Carolina Not Intolerant.

Sporadic attempts to enforce the old Sunday laws in South Carolina, chiefly at the expense of golf players, may seem to indicate that the State is the home of sour intolerance But even so far as this little flurry is concerned, that would not be true. The probability is that the arrests of Sunday golfers were prompted by either busybodies or malicious persons who will soon get tired and subside.

There is another sport in South Carolina which is not seriously interfered with. This is lynching. A notorious and atrocious instance of it recently occurred in that State which caused so much indignation that an attempt was made to bring the guilty man to justice. The Governor was loud in his protests that the crime would be rigorously inquired into and punished. But in the end nothing was done. The prosecuting officials gravely declared that they could find no evidence, though everybody knew that this was a hollow pretense.

It would be easy cynicism to say that South Carolina tolerates lynching while it proceeds severely to suppress games on Sunday. The case is not so simple as that. But without "throwing stones at the South," or denying that instances of insincerity and hypocrisy as glaring could be drawn from Northern States, it is not unfair to let the facts about Sunday golf, and about lynching on Sunday or any other day, point their own contrast and moral.

SENTINEL
ROME, N. Y.
FEB 3 1927

They Just Let Him Go.

Another Negro has been lynched down in Texas. A few years ago that would hardly have been worthy of comment, so frequent were such events. But recently in certain states of the South the vigorous action of the authorities has resulted in a curtailment of such practices—action resulting in part through awakened humanitarian considerations, but also because of the steady movement of the Negro population to the North.

In the affair at Willis, Texas, two officers of the law appear to have had in charge Tom Payne, accused of assault and robbery, the victim being a white sawmill employe. They were conveying Payne to the state penitentiary to await trial. The man had not been taken in the act and it does not appear that the circumstantial evidence was overwhelming. At any rate the Negro was entitled to his day in court and, if convicted, of punishment according to law.

The two officers with their prisoner were met by a mob of forty unmasked men who "took" Payne away and hanged him. There is not a suggestion in The Associated Press report that anybody else was hurt during the performance. It remains to be seen whether Dan Moody, recently raised from the office of attorney general to be governor in the place of the two Fergusons, will see that these two peace officers are properly disciplined.

During the regime of "Ma" Ferguson, with pardons flowing out in a steady stream from the executive office, it must be recognized that the Texans had some reason to wish to take the vengeance of the law into their own hands. Had they hanged a man properly convicted of a serious crime, we on the outside might not have condemned them too severly. But Governor Moody is supposedly made of sterner stuff—and in this case the victim of the mob had not been tried.

We have more or less similar scenes in the North. That is, mobs form with the seeming intent of taking a prisoner from the police, to free him or punish him as the case may be. The number of instances when the prisoner is surrendered is, however, exceedingly small. On or two bold men trained in mob psychology and instructed in the law as to their rights and duties, have repeatedly in our larger cities cowed the mob and retained their prisoner. Doubtless this is due in part to the promptness with which the police reserves can be brought upon the scene; but the knowledge that the officers will use first their clubs and then their revolvers to uphold the law is what counts over and above all. Somebody is sure to get hurt before the mob can secure its victim.

HERALD
Newport, R.I.
FEB 22 1927

IN SOUTH CAROLINA

The South Carolina Legislature now has before it in an anti-lynching measure which seeks to fix responsibility upon any county in which a lynching occurs, and empowers the Governor to remove sheriffs and jailers who hand prisoners over to mobs.

As to the effectiveness of the measure no one can prophesy with assurance, but it is significant that South Carolina is beginning to realize that lynching is a State problem. The disgrace that follows a lynching attaches to the entire State, and it is therefore incumbent upon the State to take action to protect itself against the stigma.

Aiken county may be hopeless, but the State of South Carolina is apparently making an effort to prove that in the commonwealth as a whole decency is still in the ascendency.—From the Baltimore Evening Sun.

NEW YORK
TELEGRAPH
APR 7 1927

LYNCHING PARTIES DOUBLED IN 1926

WASHINGTON, April 6 (U. P.)—Lynchings almost doubled last year. Thirty lynchings occurred in ten States during 1926, the Federal Council of Churches stated in announcing redoubled efforts to arouse public opinion against "hemp rope justice."

Five States formerly on the no-lynch "honor roll" for 1925—New Mexico, Kentucky, South Carolina, Tennessee and Texas—were removed in 1926. Figures for last year show a gain of thirteen lynchings over the seventeen for 1925 and fourteen more than in 1924.

According to the council data, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont never had a lynching, while Connecticut, Maine and New Jersey have been free of the evil since 1886.

DECLARES LYNCHERS ARE ALL COWARDLY

An Old-Time Sheriff Asserts Courage of Officials Will End Flouting of Law.

DEPUTY COWED 300 MEN

Southern Mob Seeking Lives of Negroes Quailed Before Rifle of Lone Jailer.

An old-time Southern Sheriff, long ago retired to spend the remainder of his life in the home of a son who had prospered in business in New York City, was entertaining a group of his cronies at his favorite "hang-out" on the subject of lynching, and in the course of his discussion he advanced what he called a "certain and sure" remedy for this blot on American civilization. All that is necessary, according to the venerable former officer of the law, is moral courage on the part of those having in custody persons awaiting trial for crime.

"I stress the word 'moral courage,'" he said. "Most sheriffs are brave men in a physical sense. In all my time I never encountered or heard of but one 'white-livered' Sheriff. The great trouble is, they are elected officials; they depend upon the votes of their fellow-citizens to hold on to their jobs, and that is why they so often accept the easiest way out of a clash with mobs—by abjectly giving up the prisoner for whose life the lynchers are clamoring. The next election always looms as a powerful factor in their course of action when the mob demands the keys of the jail.

"The luckless victims control no votes, whereas the mob members might very well hold the balance of power, or at least wield a strong influence at the polls. At any rate, that is about the way the Sheriff reasons the matter. He is absolutely wrong, of course. In the end public sentiment invariably backs the Sheriff who refuses to truckle to the mob, and Sheriffs who have given the lynchers a taste of accurate gunfire in protecting prisoners in their care are re-elected in about ninety-nine cases but of a hundred, if they again are candidates for the office.

Says Lynchers Lack Courage.

"For nearly fifty years I held various law-enforcement positions — in the South and Southwest, and for a while lived in Alaska during the gold rush period of thirty years ago. I have seen a number of mobs in action, and I say unhesitatingly that the average lynching mob is the most cowardly lot of 'yellow' jackals that God Almighty ever breathed life into. I have seen them turn tail too often in the face of real courage not to know whereof I speak.

"Now, let me remark right here that I draw a distinctive line between the old-fashioned Vigilant Committees of the West and the ordinary lynching gangs that infest States where there is every safeguard for law and order. The Vigilants operated where there was no law; they organized as a measure of self-protection; they represented all the law there was at that particular time and place.

"Our modern lynching mobs, on the other hand, operate in defiance of the law; they flout all the safeguards of courts, Sheriffs and police. They are not representative citizens, and they trample on these means a civilized community has set up for itself. They know all this full well, however buoyed up by liquor they may be on the occasion of the 'lynching bee.' Half or three-quarters drunk, as is the case with most of the lynching mobs, they are never too befuddled not to understand just how far to go in opposition to a determined and fearless Sheriff.

"Make no mistake, they will save their own precious hides. Very rarely did you ever hear of a member of a lynching party receiving injuries.

"Just give me one sure-shot rifleman—I would not want but one—and I will stand off from a jail any mob of 500 that ever was mustered to do an unfortunate to death without due process of law. I have seen the thing work out time and time again. The realization of guilt on the part of the mob undermines and saps their courage, if they had any to start with.

One Against Three Hundred.

"Way back in the early '80s, when I was Sheriff of a county in a Southern State, we had in the jail a couple of negroes who had been arrested for killing a white farmer in a dispute over a division of crops. The men had been in jail several weeks, and while there had been some talk of violence, it had pretty well died out.

"The community, as a whole, was perfectly willing to let the law take its course and accord the prisoners a fair trial. The Court had appointed an able young attorney to defend them, the defendants being without money to employ counsel.

"But one Saturday, while I was in an adjoining county on some official business, a big crowd of farmers and cotton mill operatives gathered in the little city which was our county seat and began to 'liquor up,' as the saying goes. The more mean whisky they swallowed the more they felt aggrieved that the two men in jail should be permitted to live until they could be tried in accordance with the law.

"They had no particular interest in or affection for the slain man. It was just an ugly, rum-soaking aggregation that worked itself up to a point where nothing would suit them but a hanging. About sundown they were ready for business. The two or three policemen of the town were powerless to disperse the crowd which gathered on what we called the 'swapping ground,' a place where the farmers were wont to congregate to swap horses and talk politics and share 'swigs' from their quart flasks of corn liquor.

Calmly Awaited the Mob.

"Bill Holly—dead these long years, and peace to his ashes, for he was the nerviest man in a tight place it was ever my pleasure to meet—was my deputy and jailer, and he was alone in the jail, with the exception of my wife and small son, a lad of some 10 years of age at the time. When he heard of the formation of the mob he calmly went about preparing for eventualities.

"Holly strapped two .45 Colts about his waist, took up a Winchester rifle, sat down on the jail porch. A ten-foot brick wall ran entirely around the jail. The jail yard gate, a distance of about sixty feet, and the gate opened out on a narrow street or alley connecting with the town square about 200 yards away. As the mob, about 300 strong, came surging into the alley from the square, headed by a notorious county bully and so-called bad man, it was not always carried two guns. It was not against the law at that time to bear pistols, if they were not concealed.

"Presently the mob

Lynchings- 1927
Discussions

2398 White Press. (Northern)

CUMBERLAND, MD.
Alleganian
JUN 30 1927

HOT LEAD FOR LYNCHERS

"Cold steel and hot lead", says the Macon, Ga., Telegraph, "will do more to cure lynchings than anything that could happen".

That was shown with unusual clearness in the recent mix-up in Tampa, Fla., when the sheriff and the national guard protected a murderer from lynching at the hands of a frenzied mob. It cost the lives of five mob members and the wounding of 32 others, but the general opinion in Tampa and throughout the country seems to be that it was worth the cost. There were legal casualties, too, for the authorities arrested 30 of the citizens who beleagued the jail.

The prisoner in this case happened to be white, which may or may not have made any difference in the courageous stand of the officials responsible for his safekeeping. Apparently justice was proceeding against him without any undue delay. There was no reason to doubt that he would receive his deserts.

It is regretful that it became necessary to add more deaths, in the name of law and order, to those the prisoner is accused of taking. The effect of this example, however, should be to save many lives hereafter and preserve the good name of many a community in a crisis.

BROOKLYN STANDARD UNION
AUG 5 1927

Anti-Lynching Sentiment in Mississippi.

One-party government as it is carried on in the South requires that all issues be settled in the Democratic primary. Few persons go through the formality of ratifying the result at the general election. In Mississippi, however, a curious development has arisen.

Certain citizens there in Forrest County are proposing to challenge the result of the primaries for the office of Sheriff by demanding of the candidates a pledge to defend the jail against lynchers and to require such a pledge from their deputies. Candidates who refuse the pledge will find their election contested at the polls.

If this threat is carried out, it would indicate to what an extent a realization of the evil of lynching has spread among the voters.

This county takes its name from the Confederate General Forrest.

Of the 79 counties Mississippi is divided in, Forrest County is one of the smallest. It is included with 16 other counties in the Sixth Congressional District. Its population is about 21,000, of which 12,000 dwell in Hattiesburg, a manufacturing town, hence non-conforming to Mississippi tradition.

So far there is no sign that this sort of mugwumpery has spread beyond the confines of Forrest County so Pat Harrison need not lose any sleep for the present. The consensus of the press of the other counties is that lynchings are the own affair of the respective county and that a small minority ought not presume to give unasked advice. Nevertheless the results of the fall elections in Forrest County will be watched eagerly by the entire State of Mississippi.

NEW YORK JOURNAL
JUN 14 1927

ORDERS PROBE OF LYNCHINGS

JACKSON, Miss., June 14.—The burning to death of two negro slayers of a white man by a frenzied mob was ordered investigated here today by Governor Dennis Murphree.

The two negroes, Jim and Mark Fox, brothers, were the third and fourth to be lynched and burned within a month. They were en route from Louisville, Miss., to this city for safe keeping following their arrest for slaying Clarence Nichols, a saw mill operator, after an automobile collision.

A mob collected as deputies started the two on their way, overpowered them and, seizing the negroes, marched them through Louisville streets [illegible]

NEWS
Danbury - Conn
JUN 23 1927

Mississippi Shows How To Defeat a Mob

The authorities of Jackson, Mississippi are showing the entire South how the majesty of the law may always be upheld, even when hundreds of citizens are anxious to dispose of a Negro criminal in the way all too common in the South.

Walter Burley, the criminal in question, murdered two white women in Jackson after mistreating them. He was promptly caught, and the usual mob was found. But the sheriff and his deputies were courageous and determined men, with no sympathy for mobs, and no intention of giving up their prisoner. They whipped Burley off to a jail at same distance from the scene and left him, under heavy guard, until the court was ready to try him.

The Governor of Mississippi ordered 600 National Guardsmen on duty to prevent rioting. The guardsmen surrounded the court house with barbed wire, placed machine guns at strategic points, the public was excluded from the court house. The trial was short, the accused pleaded guilty, and was sentenced to hang July 22. He was taken to an unannounced destination at the conclusion of his trial, to be kept in seclusion until he is hanged.

It is refreshing and encouraging to see Mississippi so determined that her annals shall not be further stained by mobbings and lynchings. Here is an example that should be followed by the authorities of every other Southern State.

NEW YORK EVE. POST
JUL 15 '27

THE SOUTH'S BLACK YEAR

Despite a growing public sentiment in the South against lynchings and flogging, this has been a black year for both. The steady decrease of mob murder in recent years has been sharply checked, and outbreaks of unusual brutality without even the usual excuse have marred the records of States that were beginning to point with pride to their observance of the law.

Here and there State troops have been called out to prevent lynchings, as at Jackson, Miss., where, after an exceptionally shocking crime, a negro was successfully tried and sentenced to death without interference from a mob. But only a few weeks before, in a near-by town, two negroes had been burned at the stake after they had killed a white man in self-defense.

Most of these instances of mob law argue a fundamental defect in the system of law enforcement. The sheriff of a county, who is the tax collector, too, in most instances—an incongruous combination of jobs at best—is far too afraid of his political future to take drastic action against a vehemently active group of the voters in his own county, even if, as in some instances, he has the silent backing of the majority. This last happy situation is, however, by no means the rule.

The successful use of State troops in cases of threatened mob violence argues a way out for the South, once it is really determined to put an end to the most vicious kind of law breaking. This is the establishment of State constabulary—troops of well-trained men beyond the reach of local political influences whose sole duty shall be law enforcement at any cost.

There are networks of good roads in nearly all the Southern States, making it possible for small bodies of men to be moved about swiftly and thus reducing the necessity for the maintenance at a great expense of large organizations of State police.

This solution for a bad situation of long standing has met with some discussion in the South already; the fact that recent lynchings are certain to revive talk of the passage of the Dyer Federal anti-lynching bill may give the plan further impetus. For as soon as the South realizes that there is serious danger of the passage of the Federal law it will take effective action.

The present difficulty goes much deeper than any mere friction between the races, as most of the victims of floggers have been members of the white race who were beaten by their fellow members. Flogging and lynching are two manifestations of exactly the same spirit—the insistence upon personal vengeance at the expense of law enforcement. Both can be ended, and will be very quickly when it is made plain that those who participate in them are certain to be arrested and brought to trial. It is only this certainty, which hardly exists today anywhere in the South, that will clear our civilization of these blots.

LEADER
Eau Claire, Wis.
JUL 17 1927

2398

CRIMINALITY AND MOBS

The mood of the mob is as easy to understand as any other animal trit man shares with the savage beasts. It is a blend of sorrow for the victim and abhorrence for the criminal.

Lynching is always for justification for a crime than punishment for it. Mob law shows that the criminal it destroys is not the only member of the community capable of taking human life without due process of law. When large groups of men and women will murder and torture, and whole communties will condone their deeds, it is not surprising that individuals will slay and steal.

There is a great deal of truth in the statement that lynching parties are composed of potential criminals, that those who are capable of taking the law into their own hands are capable of the crime that has provoked them to their mad frenzy. And the sooner society regards the lyncher as a criminal the sooner it will abolish lynchings.

It is only natural that human beings should be inflared by the sight or thought of a little girl assaulted by a fiend or of a woman slain by a criminal. But civilized man no longer uses mob law to prove how sensitive he is. Old women are no longer burned as witches, and when murderers are executed society does not demand that their hearts be torn from the body and the corpse cut in four pieces and publicly exposed. Only a few years ago the public thought less of the sentence to be "hanged, drawn and quartered" than it now thinks of the sentence to death in the electric chair.

Times
PORT HURON,
MICH.
ISSUE OF
AUG 9 1927

MOB LAW LESS POPULAR

The South seems to be coming to its senses.

The administration of law by the mob method does not seem to be quite as popular as it was a few years ago.

Punishment by lynching seems to be getting into more or less disrepute.

Two men of a group of seven who are being tried for kidnaping and flogging one of their fellow citizens have been convicted and sentenced to terms of years in prison.

In another part of the South a school principal who participated in the whipping of a woman was sent to prison for the crime.

It may be some time before it will be possible to convict a southerner of the crime of hanging a Negro; but there is an increasing sentiment against that kind of mob law.

It may be the result of a growing conviction that public sentiment throughout the country is not much longer going to stand for that sort of defiance of law and decency which has brought this country so much disrepute.

But however it may be, there is a new respect for the orderly administration of law beginning to work in the South which should have salutary results.

CUMBERLAND, MD.
Alleganian
AUG 4 1927

THE MOB AND THE PROSECUTOR

(From The New York World)

Solicitor James Davis of Jefferson County, Ala., shows the right spirit. He is putting forth every effort to indict and prosecute the men who flogged a Negro farmer to coerce him into selling his land for one-sixth its value. Threatened with violence unless he dropped the prosecution, he has promptly summoned the authors of the threat before the Grand Jury on a charge of attempted intimidation.

This is a spirit which is more and more in evidence among public officers in the South, and which, properly supported by public sentiment, will effect a cure for mob violence.

The Presecutor of Toombs County, Ga., early this year checked an epidemic of floggings by masked bands when he obtained numerous indictments and five convictions in one batch. Not long ago officers in Florida fatally shot several members of a mob which was trying to seize a prisoner and lynch him; last year officers at Dallas killed five men who were trying to lynch two Negroes held in jail there. In recent months a North Carolina court has given sentences ranging up to thirty years to members of a mob which had mutilated a prisoner.

If honest and vigorous Public Prosecutors did not so often face the active opposition of community opinion the task of stamping out mob violence would be far easier. It is impossible for justice to rise above its fountainhead. The lynchings in Aiken, S. C., aroused the shocked indignation of the best people of the State; when John G. Richards became Governor he denounced the outrage and did his best to expedite justice; the County Solicitor laid full evidence before the Grand Jury, and Judge Johnson, in his charge called vigorously for action. Yet majority sentiment in Aiken was indifferent and the jury refused to find a single indictment. As the Spartanburg Journal has just said, "law and justice were outraged" and yet "the craven, cowardly band who perpetrated this infamy are immune to constituted authority".

BROOKLYN
STANDARD UNION
AUG 4 1927

Anti-Lynching Attitude Taken

Excitement prevailed last night at the Brooklyn Heights Forum, Third avenue and Schemerhorn street, while members of the forum discussed a resolution against lynching, which was presented by the chairman, William J. Dilthey. The resolution was in answer to a request sent by Dr. Adena C. Minnott, chairman of the anti-lynching committee of the Northeastern Federation of Women's Clubs.

Sentiment ran strongly both for and against the resolution. The most active participants included M. J. Abrams, J. J. Walker, Mrs. E. Seibert, Mrs. L. M. Flaman, J. Lichenfeld, J. T. Kewish and John Chico. The resolution finally was adopted.

The discussion was preceded by a talk on "Digestion and Elimination" by Dr. Jacob Lane.

JOURNAL
Corry, Pa.
JUL 23 1927

LYNCHINGS

The lynchings in the United States for the first six months of this year totalled nine, the same as last year. Is our national lynching "stabilized" at that new level?

Regrettable as every one of the lynchings was, the figure represents a great gain over old records. When the past shame of the United States in this regard is considered, much satisfaction may be felt in reducing the number so low, comparatively, and holding it there. It is a triumph for law and order, in a country which is not so lawless as it is often painted.

No wonder lynchings diminish, when such a breed of public officials is developing in southern cities as was demonstrated not long ago in Tampa, when a mob tried to lynch a prisoner. Every such manful stand on the part of public authority is a victory for civilization.

JOURNAL
Racine, Wis
JUL 15 1927

WAKING UP.

The New Orleans Item says: "A Pulaski (Tenn.) grand jury indicts 13 for flogging two white men and a Negro last winter for alleged infractions of the moral code and contempt for prohibition. The action is late, but may not be too late. Convictions on charges of this sort are hard to obtain, even when investigation follows soon after the crimes. But it may be that the evidence causing the indictments will also be strong enough to procure convictions.

"A few convictions would greatly reduce this barbarism in Tennessee as it was reduced in South Carolina. We note that indictments have also been returned against seven or more Georgians in connection with the recent flogging near Toccoa.

"We welcome the indication that Tennessee too, shows indications of rebellion against gang rule and a determination to rout the night riders."

TRIBUNE
Cochocton, O.
JUL 25 1927

IN MEDIEVAL MISSISSIPPI

BURNING human beings at the stake is no new form of popular entertainment. It really goes back to Nero's human torches in the amphitheater. In the Spanish Inquisition it had a notable vogue.

The Mississippi form of this pastime lacks the impressiveness of what developed in the homeland of De Soto, who discovered the Mississippi. It has no formalities. The two Negroes whom somebody had accused of killing a white man at Louisville were indeed marched thru the town as a public exhibition, and everybody was interested. Then as a wild night was ending the mob of men and boys went out with the victims into the country dragged the Negroes to an improvised funeral pyre, poured several gallons of gasoline on them and touched a match to it. As the flames touched the flesh the men shrieked, one white man relented and sought to extinguish the fire, but he was dragged back by the crowd. Death was slow in coming, but brot its release at last. Then the mob dispersed.

Sentimentalists who make laws against rat-baiting and bull fights and cocking mains are to be found even in Mississippi. Some of them are, we imagine, on juries that acquit lynchers if on rare occasions the mob-murderers are brot to trial. But "man's inhumanity to man" does not disturb their consciences.

Lynchings- 1927
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White Press, (Northern)

2399

CHRONICLE
Centralia - Wash
JUN 24 1927

A LESSON FOR MOBS

Florida and other racially-divided states must have learned a two-fold lesson from the dispersing, with loss of life, of a mob storming a Tampa jail with intent to lynch a man they believed imprisoned there.

The one lesson was for officials charged with the enforcement of the laws and especially that fundamental American law guaranteeing every man and woman a fair trial by jury. The governor of Florida and other officers who helped him disband the lynching party exhibited great courage and a high sense of duty, winning for themselves the commendation of their state and country.

The other lesson is drawn by the potential member of a mob. The disastrous result of the Florida episode should dampen the enthusiasm of lawless gangs for such outbreaks. It may impress upon them the fact, under American ideals of government, there is no rgeater crime than denying to the accused a trial by jury.

Mobs are usually cowardly and disperse before a show of force. Frequently one determined man can hold them at bay. It is out of the ordinary for them to attack when serious resistance is offered, which is the more reason authorities should offer greater resistance to them. The very idea of a mob torturing or murdering one powerless man is cowardly.

It has been repeatedly demonstrated that when a mob goes out for vengence it is none to particular as to whom it wreaks it upon. It is judge, jury and executioner, and innocent persons are not infrequently made to suffer for mob bloodthirstitness.

Are lynchings the work of unthinking men or does man lose the power of reason when he acts collectively?

CHICAGO HEIGHTS, ILL., STAR
Tuesday, July 19, 1927

GRADUALLY WINNING IN FIGHT AGAINST MOB RULE

Progress in the campaign to eliminate lynching in the southern states is temporarily at a standstill, according to figures released today by the department of records and research of the Tuskegee Institute, Alabama.

The statement shows that there were nine lynchings during the first six months of 1927. This is the same number as for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is four more than the number for the first six months of 1925; six less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

Thus while a marked progress was noted in the decrease up until 1925 the number has been static since that time despite the increasing ill favor in which the practice is held by better elements throughout the south.

All persons lynched during the first six months of this year were Negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1. The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

This report shows that the lynchings centered in districts primarily agricultural, remote from cities and impervious to education. It was to be expected that Mississippi, the paragon of provincialism, would lead in the list, for in that state cities are few and even the scattered colleges have been unable to overcome the inherited barbarous beliefs of their founders.

But in spite of the fact that no decrease has been noted in the number of mob killings during the past three years, the outlook for the final elimination of the practice is far from dark. Many years will pass, of course, before the cotton field potentates are persuaded to drop an ancient prejudice and allow the law to take its course. But in the light of the decrease in the number of lynchings since 1922, there is every reason to believe that the leaders such as the Tuskegee institute are achieving a gradual success in their fight to give the Negro he same chance as the white man before those who would substitute passion for law.

Muskegon, Mich., Chronicle
Saturday, July 16, 1927

Civilization Scores in South.

The department of records and research of Tuskegee Institute, the normal and industrial school for colored young men and women founded by that great Moses of his race, Booker T. Washington, announces that the number of lynchings of Negroes in the South for the first half of the year 1927 was nine, the same as for the first half of the two previous years.

This equals the best record since accurate account has been kept, except for the remarkable year 1924, when there were but five lynchings for the same period. Compared with 15 for 1923, with 30 in 1922 and with 36 in 1921, that is tremendous progress.

The record is somewhat of a surprise, because an off-hand impression would have been that there had been something of an epidemic of lynching in the South in the last few months. The reason is, of course, that lynching is becoming so uncommon that it attracts more attention. The record would have been more complete had it related the number of attemped or threatened lynchings thwarted by the prompt and courageonus action of the authorities, a circumstance that is becoming encouragingly more frequent.

The record is evidence of progress of civilization. And in its guilt the North is not without a share of the responsibility. It has been shown that race prejudice is more deadly here than in the South, once it is loosed. The South has borne the bulk of the odium in the past because it has had the bulk of the problem. But with the steady infiltration of the colored race into the North the race problem is coming more and more to be a national one.

The lynching bee is merely a survival of savagery, a defeat of enlightened government. It is a combination of brutality and cowardice. The decrease in this form of savagery is evidence of an advance in civilization.

NEWS
Franklin - Pa
JUL, 1927

THE LOGIC OF LYNCHING

Although in most quarters it has not been published with much prominence, news comes from the South to the effect that over a wide territory, including both Georgia and Texas, there is what might be called an epidemic of outbreaks similar in character to lynching, although seldom amounting to outright murder.

According to these reports, young people whose behaviour is popularly criticized and women who are not in public favor are frequently taken from their homes at night by armed and disguised men, stripped and flogged.

These outbreaks of violence seem to be regarded as reprehensible by the larger part of the people in the communities where they happen but it has proved impossible to check them or punish their perpetrators.

There is no ground for surprise at such conditions. For years past a few clear-sighted writers have been telling the South that the toleration of the lynching of negroes accused of infamous crimes was not only making it possible to murder negroes upon any flimsy pretense but also putting in peril the rights of every white man and woman.

This view of the case is perfectly logical. If the lawless element are allowed lawlessly to kill a negro today because he is supposed to have been guilty of a serious offense, tomorrow the same impulse will direct violence toward another negro whose supposed offense is less grave. Then, when a white man or white woman, on some day a little further in the future, is suspected of wrong-doing, the precedent is already more than half-established for resorting to lynch law.

The riot at Tampa, in the attempt of a crowd to lynch a white man, was the direct result of unresisted Florida lynching bees of which negroes had been the victims. The floggings from Georgia to Texas are administered by people who learned the lesson of civic bad conduct from the triumphant lynching bees of the South Central South.

NEWS
Ithaca - N. Y.
JUN 4 1927

The Tampa Mob

Tampa has become known in recent years as an active and progressive community, the leading west coast city of Florida. Hence the reports of rioting lasting for days, with the mob so infuriated that first the sheriff and his deputies, and then the troops were compelled to fire on it, come as a shock.

As a result, a number of persons have been killed, many more wounded and many more wounded and numerous arrests made. The mob was bent on lynching a man who is said to have confessed to murdering a whole family of five persons.

The horror aroused by such an atrocious crime can be easily understood, but it cannot be supposed that such a wretch would escape the extreme penalty of the law when placed on trial.

Mob law cannot be tolerated. Whatever the consequences, the civil and military authorities are warranted in resisting the rioters and taking all measures necessary to restore law and order.

EVENING POST
NEW YORK CITY
JUL 15 1927

THE SOUTH'S BLACK YEAR

Despite a growing public sentiment in the South against lynchings and floggings, this has been a black year for both. The steady decrease of mob murder in recent years has been sharply checked, and outbreaks of unusual brutality without even the usual excuse have marred the records of States that were beginning to point with pride to their observance of the law.

Here and there State troops have been called out to prevent lynchings, as at Jackson, Miss., where, after an exceptionally shocking crime, a negro was successfully tried and sentenced to death without interference from a mob. But only a few weeks before, in a near-by town, two negroes had been burned at the stake after they had killed a white man in self-defense.

Most of these instances of mob law argue a fundamental defect in the system of law enforcement. The sheriff of a county, who is the tax collector, too, in most instances—an incongruous combination of jobs at best—is far too afraid of his political future to take drastic action against a vehemently active group of the voters in his own county, even if, as in some instances, he has the silent backing of the majority. This last happy situation is, however, by no means the rule.

The successful use of State troops in cases of threatened mob violence argues a way out for the South, once it is really determined to put an end to the most vicious kind of law breaking. This is the establishment of State constabulary—troops of well-trained men beyond the reach of local political influences whose sole duty shall be law enforcement at any cost.

There are networks of good roads in nearly all the Southern States, making it possible for small bodies of men to be moved about swiftly and thus reducing the necessity for the maintenance at a great expense of large organizations of State police.

This solution for a bad situation of long standing has met with some discussion in the South already; the fact that recent lynchings are certain to revive talk of the passage of the Dyer Federal anti-lynching bill may give the plan further impetus. For as soon as the South realizes that there is serious danger of the passage of the Federal law it will take effective action.

The present difficulty goes much deeper than any mere friction between the races, as most of the victims of floggers have been members of the white race who were beaten by their fellow members. Flogging and lynching are two manifestations of exactly the same spirit—the insistence upon personal vengeance at the expense of law enforcement.

Both can be ended, and will be very quickly when it is made plain that those who participate in them are certain to be arrested and brought to trial. It is only this certainty, which hardly exists today anywhere in the South, that will clear our civilization of these blots.

ROCKFORD, ILL., REPUBLIC
Friday, July 15, 1927

CIVILIZATION.

Nine lynchings were recorded during the first six months of 1927 by the department of records and research at Tuskegee. All of the victims were black, and all of the lynchings were in southern states.

The offenses charged were murder, attempted murder, rape and improper conduct, while for one lynching no definite accusation was reported. There were 9 lynchings in the first half of last year and the year before, five in the corresponding period of 1924, 15 for 1923, 30 for 1922 and 3 in the first six months of 1921.

Nearly all of the victims were black, but all white men in the same periods and the same localities could not have been conducting themselves above suspicion. The prejudice is obvious.

It is interesting, however, to note that lynchings in the United States have declined from 16 in 1886 to 16 and 17 for 1924 and 1925. Except for a few years, this decline has been gradual and steady. According to figures compiled at Tuskegee, 3,182 of the 4,220 lynched from 1885 to 1925 inclusive, were black.

Mob attacks and race riots are expressions of the lower traits and the lower orders of humanity. In the south, where such conditions are permitted to continue, the fault lies largely with the so-called better classes, who prove themselves incompetent to rule or else participate by acquiescence.

Tuskegee institute performs a service by gathering facts and compiling statistics on a national shame. That certain progress in repression of lynching appears from recent figures to have been accomplished merely proves that correction is possible and that certain communities require discipline.

PORTLAND, ORE.
Journal
JUL 6 1927

WE HAVE LYNCHINGS.

From the New York World

Extract from a dispatch from Frederick, Md., published in the Baltimore Sun and telling of the arrest of a negro for the murder of a white woman:

"Quick work by the sheriff and his deputy and a warning from State's Attorney William M. Sturm that an attempt to molest the prisoner would result in murder indictments alone prevented a lynching."

Excerpt from a dispatch from Louisville, Miss., telling of the burning to death of two negroes who had murdered a white man:

"W. S. Parmenter, deputy sheriff, and two other officers were taking the negroes to Jackson for safekeeping. They were overtaken near Noxapater by a mob which blocked the highway and demanded the surrender of the prisoners. The officers at first refused to surrender them and fired several shots in the air in an effort to frighten the mob, whose number was estimated at 1000, but the mob was insistent."

The moral of these two dispatches is plain: the Maryland officers meant business; the Mississippi officers did not. And that, it seems reasonable to infer, is why Mississippi has lynchings and Maryland does not.

PUBLIC LEDGER
PHILADELPHIA, PA.
JUN 26 1927

HOOL WILL TRAIN RECREATION HEADS

Specialists in Music, Athletics and Playground Work Offer Courses at Seger Center

INSTRUCTION BEGINS JULY 5

A community recreation school, to aid workers in this field to become more efficient leaders in the recreation movement for Negroes, will be held at the Seger Recreation Center, 10th and Lombard streets, July 5 to 22. Ernest T. Attwell, field director of the Bureau of Colored Work, of the Playground and Recreation Association of America, whose address is 501 South 16th street, Philadelphia, is in charge of the arrangements for the undertaking.

The school is planned for experienced workers, desirous of widening their knowledge of modern methods, and also for young workers who wish to prepare themselves for positions of responsibility.

The faculty will include specialists in music, athletics, handicraft, playground management and social recreation. Broader phases of the recreation movement also will be discussed.

The courses will include instruction regarding community recreation and community service, community and neighborhood organization, finance and publicity for such activities, the business aspects of community organizations, social recreation, community athletics, playground administration, community drama and pageantry, community music, training for leadership, community-center administration and laboratory methods.

There will be, also, general lectures by speakers well-known in the field of social, civic and recreational work and visits to settlements, parks, playgrounds and dramatic performances. Special attention will be given to the adaptation of community recreation activities to the needs of the social group.

The only cost will be a registration fee of $7.50.

TIMES
CUMBERLAND, MD
JUN 27 1927

HOT LEAD FOR LYNCHERS

"Cold steel and hot lead", says the Macon, Ga., Telegraph, "will do more to cure lynchings than anything that could happen".

That was shown with unusual clearness in the recent mix-up in Tampa, Fla., when the sheriff and the national guard protected a murderer from lynching at the hands of a frenzied mob. It cost the lives of five mob members and the wounding of 32 others, but the general opinion in Tampa and throughout the country seems to be that it was worth the cost. There were legal casualties, too, for the authorities arrested 30 of the citizens who beleagued the jail.

The prisoner in this case happened to be white, which may or may not have made any difference in the courageous stand of the officials responsible for his safekeeping. Apparently justice was proceeding against him without any undue delay. There was no reason to doubt that he would receive his deserts.

It is regretful that it became necessary to add more deaths, in the name of law and order, to those the prisoner is accused of taking. The effect of this example, however, should be to save many lives hereafter and preserve the good name of many a community in a crisis.

DES MOINES
IOWA
JUN 24 1927

Law and Order.

The news reports tell of the trial of a Negro in Mississippi, held behind a guard of hundreds of armed soldiers. The trial resulted in his conviction and sentence to death "in a minute and a half."

There is a great show of law and order in the armed protection afforded the court. But how much law and order is there in a proceeding which disposes of a man's life in the time spent in this case?

Too often when a lynching is averted it is on the promise of the officials to see that justice is done, which means and is taken as a promise that the same fate will be dealt out as if the mob had been allowed to have its way. That is a lynching as surely as if it had been done by the mob. It is under the threat and influence of the mob.

It is not enough to rely upon these parades of the military to believe that violence has been avoided and fairness done. That is not what is wanted at all. A new attitude toward the Negro is all that will meet the needs of the situation.

Hamburg Item
NEWS
JUN 23 1927

Mississippi Shows How To Defeat a Mob

The authorities of Jackson, Mississippi are showing the entire South how the majesty of the law may always be upheld, even when hundreds of citizens are anxious to dispose of a Negro criminal in the way all too common in the South.

Walter Burley, the criminal in question, murdered two white women in Jackson after mistreating them. He was promptly caught, and the usual mob was found. But the sheriff and his deputies were courageous and determined men, with no sympathy for mobs, and no intention of giving up their prisoner. They whipped Burley off to a jail at same distance from the scene, and left him, under heavy guard, until the court was ready to try him.

The Governor of Mississippi ordered 600 National Guardsmen on duty to prevent rioting. The guardsmen surrounded the court house with barbed wire, placed machine guns at strategic points, the public was excluded from the court house. The trial was short, the accused pleaded guilty, and was sentenced to hang July 22. He was taken to an unannounced destination at the conclusion of his trial, to be kept in seclusion until he is hanged.

It is refreshing and encouraging to see Mississippi so determined that her annals shall not be further stained by mobbings and lynchings. Here is an example that should be followed by the authorities of every other Southern State.

Lynchings-1927
Discussion.

White Press, (Northern).

2400

NEW YORK
EVE. WORLD

MAR 22 1927

LYNCHING VICIOUS—IN THE SOUTH

These furious race riots in Northern cities ar becoming increasingly embarrassing to our Northern passion for preaching the evils of lynching to the South. We fell into that delightfully complacent feeling of moral superiority in the gladsome days when Charles Sumner was waxing wrothy over the oppression of Negroes in the South, and when that delectable apostle of race hate, Thad Stevens, was planning to protect the Southern Negro by degrading the Southern whites.

But alas, how things work out! The most sensational rioting against the Negroes in recent years has been in the North. We mobbed our colored brethren in Chicago; we mobbed them in old Ben Wade's State at Springfield and at Columbus; we mobbed them in the shadow of Lincoln's tomb at Springfield and we mobbed them in Nebraska. And now we mob them in Kansas, the home of Pomeroy.

But why reflect too much on these embarrassing things? Occasionally there is a lynching in the South, and while the mobs there appear to concentrate their fury on some one charged with a crime, we play no favorites in our mobbing but take in the whole race. But let's not weaken. Let's still insist it is an outrageous thing that colored men are lynched—in the South.

Centralia (Wn.) Chronicle
February 8, 1927

PASSING OF MOB LAW

Statistics compiled by the Tuskegee Institute, while noting the fact that twenty-nine persons were lynched last year, as against sixteen in the previous year, show that in other respects there has been an improvement in this situation which has so disgraced this country in the eyes of its own right-thinking and civilized citizens and with other civilized countries.

In no fewer than thirty-three instances the local authorities were successful n preventing lynchings, and twenty-two persons indicted for participation in the administration of "lynch law" were tried and sentenced to terms ranging from four years to life imprisonment.

Discouragement provoked by the increase in number of victims of "Judge Lynch" is more than outweighed by the evident growing disposition in the "mob law belt" to enforce penalties of the law whenever outbreaks of mob violence of this kind occur. Mobs would not now be taking the law in their own hands in certain benighted states had not public opinion countenanced such outrages thtse many years and had not their public officers abetted them.

Infliction of the death penalty or long prison terms on lynchers in those states in which lynchings still occur will speedily convince them that they are not bigger than the law and that the lyncher, in the eyes of the law, is a murderer.

Though the lyncher is now punished for his crimes, society is still good to him. Society grants trial by jury to those charged with denying to others that right given to all in this country by the Constitution.

Meyersdale, Pa.
FEB 4 1927

SOUTH CAROLINA LYNCHING

Whether the failure of the Aiken county, South Carolina, grand jury to find any indictments in the notorious lynching case which was before it is a ground for indignation or just funny depends on how one looks at it.

The lynching, now some months ago, was barbarously inexcusable. It could be interpreted only as meaning that the people of Aiken county are not willing that their courts shall give a negro a fair trial. The perpetrators of the lynching seem to have been perfectly well known; investigation by unprejudiced parties left no doubt about that. There have been a lot of official promises about the doing of justice, but the grand jury walked into court, the other day, and solemnly told the judge that nothing had been laid before them to justify an indictment against anybody; and the judge told them he would believe them, although suggesting that there are other ways of looking at it.

But the funny part of it comes when the grand jury, after declaring its realization of the wide publicity given to the lynching, expressed the hope that an equal publicity would be given to their statement: "We do positively condemn lynching, mob violence or anything else that would reflect on the state".

There you get it! The most terrible of all terrible things is to have anything "reflect" on the state. till that happens, not much of anything is to be worried about. In any event, while condemning lynching, the grand jury of Aiken county will take no shortest step toward punishing it.

NEWS
Norfolk Neb
MAR 30 1927

GETTING BACK AT US

The recent racial outbreak in our neighboring commonweath, has given Dixie a chance to read us one of our own lectures. The Lynchburg Daily Advance takes advantage of the opportunity in this fashion:

"If the race riot in Kansas, which necessitated the calling out of the national guard, had occurred in any southern community the south would have been denounced for indulging in an outbreak against the Negroes.

"The south does not approve of lynching or of race riots. The south is as much opposed to mob rule as any other section of the nation. But the south does object to being made the target of abuse for mob outbreaks when other sections are equally as guilty.

"It is a fact that southern mobs rarely prey upon innocent Negroes. The lynchings that unfortunately occur in the south claim only the perpetrators of henious crimes. In the north and west, hatred is directed against the Negro population as a whole. Mobs in those sections are not content to punish the guilty but vent their rage against all Negroes.

"The south is not proud of its lynching and race riot record. Yet it is no worse than any other section. In many respects its record is far better, for the Negro population is large and the chance for crime far greater."

Under the circumstances the north will have to take the lecture in as good grace as possible, for there seems to be no alibi.

EXPRESS
Du Bois, Pa
FEB 2 1927

TO PREVENT LYCHING.

—o—

Down in South Carolina's House of Representatives a member has proposed about the most hopeful bit of legislation designed to prevent mob murder that has been admitted to the record. Representative Purdy has offered a bill which would empower the Governor of the State to remove from office any slieriff, constable or other peace officer from whose cutosdy a prisoner may be taken and lynched or whipped. That bill is braced by common sense and understanding of human nature.

For numerous reasons obvious on their face, all the anti-lynching bills presented in Congress are absurd. The much-talked-of Dyer bill, for example, is open to all the insuperable objections that stand in the way of Federal regulation of purely State affairs. In addition, it seeks in a blind and stumbling manner to penalize a whole community for a crime committed in that community by a mob, whether the mob is composed of residents of that community or not. State laws prescribing and punishing crimes still are inadequate to prevent mob violence because their enforcement depends on the fallibility of law officers and grand juries and petty juries called on after the commission of mob crimes. The South Carolina bill would go almost to the source.

In countless instances, mobs seize their victims from officers who content themselves with mere pleading and argument or with nothing more than perfunctory resistance. In some instances, be it said to the shame of our civilization, there is actual collusion between officers and mobs. If the bill proposed becomes law and if Governors of South Carolina are fearless in executing it, cowardice and neglect of duty by officers in such cases will be punished and guilty officers will be held up to public obloquy.

FROM Boston Providence R.I.

FEB 25 1927

GEORGIA'S 1926 RECORD

(The Bulletin, Augusta, Ga.)

The Tuskegee Institute announces that there was one lynching in Georgia during the past year and the victim was a white man. Members of the mob are serving prison sentences. "Georgia came within four days of going through a year without lynching a Negro," said The Baltimore Sun editorially, "but on the night of Dec. 27 a mob at Gainesville broke into the jail and killed a negro accused of attempting to extort money from a white woman." The Baltimore Sun is correct in attributing the lynching of the Negro to Gainesville but not to Georgia for the Gainesville that was the scene of the crime is not in Georgia. No Negro was lynched in Georgia during the past year; lynchers of the white man are wearing felons' stripes. That is a gratifying indication of improvement, but it is not enough. Georgia should not only have a perfect record in future years but public opinion on the subject should be such and so strong that lynching would be as far from the minds of even the least intelligent as revolution is.

COURIER
Lancaster Pa.
NOV 23 1926

BLOW TO LYNCH LAW

The case of the nine men who confessed to lynching a white man, charged with killing a white woman, was a test case for the people and courts of Georgia and they have stood the test. Confident of quick exoneration, nine of the eleven men charged with the "revenge murder," admitted the crime, but a judge in the Georgia superior court failed to see any distinction between the form of murder the victim was charged with and the form of murder the slayers were guilty of and sentenced the leader of the mob to life imprisonment and the eight others to prison terms ranging from four to twenty years.

No more telling blow could have been dealt to lynching, but it would not have been dealt had public opinion had not been behind the judge who sentenced the administrators of "lynch law." In the past there have been Georgia courts which believed the right to a jury trial is inalienable irrespective of race or color but their hands were tied by public condonation of mob murder.

The fact that nine members of a lynching party have been sent to the penitentiary and three others, who deny any guilt, must stand trial is sufficient proof that the great majority of Georgians have awakened to the fact that there is no lawlessness more flagrant than the taking of the law into one's own hands.

North Carolina set an example for the whole South when it sent members of a lynching party to prison. Georgia is the first to emulate the Old North State. Let the other states cooperate in making "lynch law" only an ugly memory in the South.

BROOKLYN CITIZEN
JAN 23 1927

NEW GOVERNOR BEGINS AIKEN LYNCH PROBE

John G. Richards Surprises South Carolina by Swift Move

COLUMBIA, S. C., Jan. 22.—John G. Richards, newly inaugurated Governor of South Carolina, intends to act against lynchings, the policy bein didicated to-day by the order of B. D. Carter, State prosecuting attorney, for continued investigation of a triple lynching at Aiken, last October.

The Aiken County Grand Jury is to resume consideration of the case next week; two Negro men and one woman were killed by a mob for alleged slaying of a county officer.

NEW YORK EVE. POST
MAR 18 1927

LYNCHING NOT SO SAFE

Lynching is becoming a hazardous occupation. Five men in Texas were arrested and placed in jail last year in connection with the lynching of two colored men and one colored woman. Seventeen members of a mob which lynched a white man in Georgia were indicted. Eleven of these were sentenced, others being held in prison awaiting trial. The ringleader is serving a life term; the sentences of his associates range from four to twenty years.

A penalty of a different sort is the sum of $2,000 which the State of South Carolina was directed to pay to the next of kin of a man who had been the victim of mob law. Especially noteworthy is the ousting from office, under the State anti-lynching law, of a Kentucky constable who had allowed a mob to take a negro from his custody and lynch the prisoner.

These incidents, cited in the annual report of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, indicate definite progress toward putting an end to our worst national disgrace. With them should be placed the numerous instances which occurred of prevention of lynchings. The North as well as the South figured in these affairs. In fact, the sections were evenly divided in this matter, five States north of Mason and Dixon's line and five States south being the arena of the officers' successful conflicts with mobs or the outwitting of them.

The South is to be congratulated, and in no patronizing manner, upon the determination it is evincing to stamp out a practice which has been as severely condemned by some of its leaders and by part of its press as by persons living in the North. Lynchings which have marred the record of more than one Northern State in recent years have enabled Northerners to realize more keenly the difficulty of coping with the mob spirit. Every advance against it in either the North or the South is to be hailed as an advance for the entire country.

News
Beloit — Wis
FEB 3 1927

SOUTH CAROLINA'S DISGRACE

THE Aiken, S. C., grand jury meets and feebly again reports itself unable to find any evidence to support indictments in the Lowman triple lynching.

This despite damaging testimony by other occupants of the Aiken jail on the night that a mob took three negroes, one of them a woman, out from the jail, ordered them to run, and shot them down in cold blood. This despite the sleuthing for several weeks by a special detective put on the case by the governor, now retired, whose hand was forced by the clamor of newspapers from outside his state, in which bolder representatives of the South Carolina press later joined.

At best the governor's conduct was not aggressive. He pursued a Fabian policy, refusing to call a special session of the grand jury to act on the evidence developed. At its regular session the grand jury now reports that there is no evidence to sustain indictments.

The new governor, a man of apparently sturdier stamp, came into office last month with pledges to do all in his power to clear up the disgrace. It will remain to be seen how much those pledges mean.

So long as no one is brought to trial in court for as dastardly and barbarous a lynching outrage as has occurred in years, Aiken will remain on trial in the tribunal of public opinion.

NEWS
CLEVELAND, O.
FEB 8 1927

Give Georgia Credit

AFTER a woman was murdered Georgia officers arrested a suspect, believed to have killed her because he thought she told of his bootlegging operations. Then a mob took the man from the officers and lynched him. That occurred last summer, but the remarkable part came later. A member of the mob convicted at Douglas, Ga., and now sentenced to prison for life is the second to receive a life term for participation in the lynching. Ten others who pleaded guilty have been sent to prison for terms ranging from four to twenty years.

Mob law will not be popular in Coffee county or elsewhere in the state for some time to come, it may be assumed. Any improvement will be welcome, since Georgia's lynching record, especially as to Negroes, has been the worst charged against any state. The good work of the Douglas court should also have some effect in other states in further reducing a national disgrace. That lynchings have been somewhat less common in very recent years is an encouraging omen.

Such outbursts of mob violence can be prevented somewhat successfully, if lynching is treated as a crime as serious as any other murder. Since it was only a filibuster engineered by southern senators that kept the federal government from intervening a few years ago, Georgia's achievement is particularly gratifying, not to say surprising. It shows that the individual states [illegible] with the problem, if they will

Lynchings- 1929
Discussions.

White Press, (Northern)

2401

NEW YORK
Mail & Eve. Telegram

MAY 7 1927

Lynch Law Based on Fear.

LYNCH law is based on fear of the mob. In nine cases out of ten it operates only where the officers become scared after counting noses.

Once in a blue moon some Sheriff is overpowered or shot down, but, generally speaking, the mob is glad to accept a nervy man's argument.

BRONX HOME NEWS

MAY 8 1927

Begin National Anti-Lynch Appeal at Harlem Church

An appeal for a nation-wide drive to stop lynchings was made at special services held Sunday evening at St. Mark's M. E. Church, 138th St. and St. Nicholas Ave., under the auspices of the Colored Women's Stop Lynching League. The principal address was made by Rev. J. W. Robinson, pastor.

Other speakers were Mrs. Elenora Johnson, president of the League; Fred R. Moore, J. Daimas Steele, Dr. Charles H. Roberts, Mrs. Irene Blackstone and Pope Billups.

"A mob is treason to government, and injures a community and the nation more than it does the victim," declared Rev. Robinson. Lynching is an American crime and other nations regard us in the light of our own record on lynching."

NEW YORK
GRAPHIC

MAY 9 1927

NOTHING BUT THE SPINEless cowardice of officials responsible for the madness that permits possibly innocent men to be executed by law or by mob. Legal lynching is no better than illegal lynching. Both defy the justice that is the basis of American law. Both lower Both disgrace America. Both are the remnants of savagery.

SUN

JUN 20 1927

Hero Stuff Still Good

The sheriff's trade still seems to be offering as many chances for action in these so-called peaceful times as it did in the piping times of Jesse James, the Dalton brothers, and Texas Jack Omohundro.

In Meridian, Miss., a sheriff fights a mob to prevent the burning at the stake of two negroes. Twenty-five miles south of Tulsa, Okla., a sheriff's posse closes in on a spectacular bandit who had kidnapped a town marshall and roped him to a tree with a pistol belt. In Joliet, Ill., Sheriff Markgraff toys with the steering wheel of his car while bandits press the muzzle of a pistol into his sides. The sheriff nods his head to his deputies, ordering them to fire at the bandits so close to him.

Life today is soft, over-civilized, without chance for adventure or heroism? Look again.

BEACON-NEWS
AURORA, ILL.

JUN 5 1927

SUCH IS LIFE.

Lindbergh risked his own life to fly to Paris. That is one kind of bravery.

A Tampa, Fla., sheriff and his deputies recently barricaded themselves in the jail and by the use of firearms which injured eight, held off a mob of 600 which tried to effect a jail delivery and lynch a man charged with murder. That is another kind of bravery.

Lindbergh's deed, successful, brings him glory from all. The obscure sheriff's deed, while it brings him the admiration and respect of decent citizens, subjects him to mob hatred and mob revenge.

Such is life.

JOURNAL
KANSAS, CITY, MO.

APR 30 1927

Should Be Avenged.

The mob spirit is the same, regardless of the race, creed or color of the victim. It is the expression of the lawless instinct inherent in human nature and which civilization has curbed until it erupts only in a negligible number of instances. But because it defies the laws of civilization one ebullition attracts far more attention than many orderly processes of the law.

Figures recently compiled show an alarming increase in lynchings last year, principally in the Southern states. One particular outburst of the mob spirit, however, is attracting special notice and the press of Georgia is acting vigorously to avenge H. M. Flanders, editor of the Soperton News, who has been made an invalid by a cowardly assault by antiprohibitionists who resented his attacks upon bootleggers.

Undoubtedly it makes some difference whether or not the victim of an attack is accused of a serious offense or whether he is penalized for his devotion to the law. This particular case is aggravated by the fact that the sheriff of the county in which the outrage occurred is one of three men under arrest charged with committing it.

ST. LOUIS, MO.
Star

MAY 24 1927

A STAIN UPON MISSOURI.

A Missouri mob took a negro from the Pemiscot County jail at Caruthersville and lynched him upon a crudely erected scaffold in the center of the village of Braggadocio. This savage display of unreasoning passion for vengeance is a stain upon the fair name of the whole commonwealth. Missouri is not a wild country where law officers are few, nor is Pemiscot County a sparsely settled district where swift justice cannot be had. It is instead a rich agricultural community, with a new courthouse. There is therefore even less excuse for mob vengeance than in less fortunate communities.

Dispatches declare no arrests have been made, and none is recommended. Authorities declare they do not know the identity of a single man in the mob, although the sheriff stood on the jail steps and pleaded for his prisoner and must have had a good view of many of them. That is a poor exhibition of authority. A determined sheriff could have prevented his prisoner from falling into the hands of the mob if he had wanted to, for mobs are notoriously cowardly when faced by cool courage and determination.

As it is, a blot has been placed upon the fair name of Missouri. Not to bring those who composed the mob to justice will add to it. It is to be hoped the law-abiding citizenship will see to it that the present "do-nothing" attitude of the authorities is changed.

tional legislation may be need- They have signally failed to learn some of the se, but it is more particularly lessons of American citizenship. hat section of the country in We can not conceive of lynchings taking place ost numerous. It is not a blot unless people surrender themselves to the lead- d to the shoulders of "aliens" ership of the basest among them. A crime com- as we so often glibly "pass the mitted by a negro, or charged to one, always of- ecords of crime are published. fers the opportunity and invitation to a social re- hings take place in a section probrate to profess a "righteous indignation" and lest number of alien whites in play the role of hero in his community. There The blame for uncurbed blood- are always plenty of his own strata to give him for legal processes and fun- support in his plans, and throngs of people with incipally on Americans whose higher ideals forget them in their hunger for these shores generations ago. quick vengeance and abet the murderous pur- ancestors came to the poses of the outcast leaders.

JOURNAL
Chicago

MAY 5 1927

ANOTHER LYNCHING.

Another lynching, under especially grewsome circumstances, blackens the good name of the United States among the nations. The prevention of lynchings is a national problem, in the

There is a "kink" in the mentality of the people, or in its attitude towards the law, that it is difficult to eradicate, and which may take a long process of education. Does it never occur to them that if the law fails to do its work that the proper alternative is to reform their judicial processes, or to change the personnell of the judiciary? Enlightened sentiment in the South is fighting the lynching evil and is making progress, but it has a great deal to contend with; much more perhaps, than people in the North can comprehend. So although we become indignant at lynchings we should not think that the people of the North have a monopoly of the right sentiment toward this evil.

TRIBUNE
CHICAGO, ILL.

JUN 8 1927

LYNCH LAW.

Recent efforts of inhabitants of Tampa to take a prisoner from the jail and hang him cannot be ascribed to mob delirium. They were reported for several days and therefore indicate a deliberate purpose that seems to put the situation in a different category from mob outrages, which are explained if not excused on the theory that they are uncontrollable eruptions of passion.

But the Tampa situation is not really unique. Lynching is not always, perhaps it is not generally, the result of a sudden explosion of emotion. Very often it is the culmination of several days' fermentation and expresses long smoldering feeling and deep laid convictions. At Tampa and unquestionably in other American communities, including our own, there are many people who have no such regard for the orderly processes of law and government as would restrain them from mob action. Such men still live on our frontier, a frontier which is not geographical but social. They belong to a community which has not yet delegated its disciplines and restraints to public agencies, but resorts to impromptu action whenever it is strongly moved. The Tampa mob was not swept along by uncontrollable passion. It slept on its determination and woke with it unshaken. It was outraged by the interference of the agencies of formal law and order, believing that its own moral impulses were a higher sanction than government possesses.

Unfortunate in its excesses as this instinct or assumption is, it is not unnatural, perhaps it is inherent, in a free society which regards the conscience of the individual as giving the final test of conduct and relies upon individual initiative as the mainspring of the social organism. The brutal madness of mobs is something other than lynch law, and while the latter is seldom justifiable it has its root in our American social character and derives from qualities essential, we think, in the American scheme. It is the perversion or excess of a profound instinct of individual responsibility and judgment. We deplore it and combat it, but to deal with it wisely it is necessary to understand it. It is often the bitter fruit of good motives gone sadly astray, betrayed by ignorance and inexperience and made the dupe of passion and bigotry. Its violence must be met by the force of a higher system, by the ordered restraint of the law, but the cure for it is education.

N. Y. WORLD
JUN 19 1927

WHY WE HAVE LYNCHINGS

Extract from a despatch from Frederick, Md., published in the Baltimore Sun and telling of the arrest of a Negro for the murder of a white woman:

> Quick work by the Sheriff and his deputy and a warning from State's Attorney William M. Sturm that any attempt to molest the prisoner would result in murder indictments alone prevented a lynching.

Excerpt from a despatch from Louisville, Miss., supplied by the Associated Press and telling of the burning to death of two Negroes who had murdered a white man:

> W. S. Parmenter, deputy sheriff, and two other officers were taking the Negroes to Jackson for safekeeping. They were overtaken near Noxapater by a mob which blocked the highway and demanded the surrender of the prisoners. The officers at first refused to surrender them and fired several shots in the air in an effort to frighten the mob, whose number was estimated at 1,000, but the mob was insistent.

The moral of these two despatches is plain: the Maryland officers meant business; the Mississippi officers did not. And that, it seems reasonable to infer, is why Mississippi has lynchings and Maryland does not.

TIMES
CUMBERLAND, MD.

JUN 16 1927

THE MOB SPIRIT

For several years past those Southern States which were long subject to outbreaks of lynching have been showing a disposition to mend their ways. The number of lynchings in several of these States has materially decreased. But recently there have been many instances of a return of the old mob spirit. Prisoners have been taken from the hands of sheriffs who were too easily overpowered, jails have been stormed by wild mobs and disgusting orgies of hate and death have followed.

All these exhibitions of mob violence are as detestable as they may well be, but at least it must be said for the lynchers—if, indeed, any good word could be said for them—that they went about their murderous business in the open. They ran some personal risk of being shot by faithful guardians of the law, although it must be admitted that beyond that slight danger there seems to be little chance of punishment, in those regions, to any lyncher who may merely have been arrested and brought to trial for participation in such a crime. Still, for all that, the average member of a lynching party works unmasked and in the open.

Quite different are the cowardly creatures who within the past few days have disgraced the States of Georgia and Texas. Masked men at Toccoa, Ga., brutally flogged a woman and her son so severely that the woman may die. She was accused of being a "bad character." She declares the stories against her were idle gossip, but those stories were believed by her judges—and almost her executioners—who, we must suppose, are not bad characters." One of those accused of this outrage, by the way, is the principal of a high school in that neighborhood. At about the time this thing was happening in Georgia a similar outbreak occurred near Marshall, Tex., where two men and three women were beaten—two may, indeed, have been killed, for no trace can now be found of them.

What can be said of such cowardly brutes as these masked floggers? And what will Texas and Georgia do about it? It is a time for a thorough housecleaning and those States owe it to themselves and the rest of the country.

BRONX HOME NEWS
MAY 26 1927

Says Race Relations Are Critical

Race relations in Mississippi have reached a critical point. There have been three lynchings in two months, another impends, and Judge Walter White of Harrison County has severely assailed the Negro race while extolling the good qualities of the Caucasian inhabitants of the State.

Judge White is the magistrate who attempted last year to prevent the reporting of proceedings in his court. He threatened to jail for contempt any reporter who published an account of the trial of a white man of the swamps for killing two game wardens. All the newspapers defied him and Judge White did nothing.

In sentencing two Negroes to the penitentiary for killing a white man who had stopped them on the road, struck and cursed them for having splashed mud on him as they drove by in an automobile, Judge White said:

"The Negroes of this State go looking for trouble. They carry arms, the men revolvers, the women razors. When one commits a crime the whole Negro community protects him. On the contrary, when a white man commits a crime his neighbors deliver him to the law."

Following closely on the lynching of two Negroes at Louisville, Miss., by burning at the stake and the impencing lynching of another at Jackson, this speech has stirred the Negroes in many sections of the State deeply.

At Jackson 1,000 of the "best" citizens have agreed "not to lynch Will Coleman just now," and have signed an agreement to refrain from the outrage until a confession regarding his accomplices can be forced from the Negro.

No action is being taken to bring to trial the persons who burned the Negroes at Louisville.

N. Y. WORLD
JUN 17 1927

SPEECH BY COURT FANS RACE HATRED

Mississippi Judge Bitterly Assails Negroes, Lauds Qualities of Whites

TWO BURNED; NOBODY PAYS

1,000 Citizens Agree Not to Lynch Prisoner Yet

Special Despatch to The World

NEW ORLEANS, June 16.—Relations

Father of Three Aiken Lynching Victims Is to Speak Before Harlem Gathering Tonight

The story of the Aiken lynchings will be told tonight in New Manhattan Casino, 155th St. and Eighth Ave., by Sam F. Lowman, of Aiken, S. C., father of the three children hanged by a mob.

He arrived in New York yesterday, having been released from the penitentiary in February with 72 days off his two-year sentence for good behavior.

The lynching of the three children took place last autumn, but little was heard of it until New York newspapers investigated and revealed that officers of the law were accused of participating. The Grand Jury, however, refused to indict anyone.

Lowman is a perfect type of the South Carolina colored farmer. His accents are those of the south and he speaks in a slow drawling voice. Yesterday he came to New York to thank those interested in the case of his children.

Saw Children Led Away

He said the fruits of the campaign to abolish lynching in the South were obvious to him, even while he was incarcerated in the penitentiary.

He said he had seen jail officials hanging their heads in shame. Lowman was in confinement when he saw his three children taken out to be hanged.

He heard the mob crying "Get the old man, too," he related yesterday, but others interceded for him and said he had done nothing wrong. His wife was killed in a previous raid on his farm when he was accused of being a bootlegger.

S. R. Williams, director of the National Negro Development Union, has taken charge of the visitor, while he is in New York. Since his release from the penitentiary, when he was given $2.30 for carfare, he has been staying with his four remaining children in Philadelphia, and he expects to return there and seek employment handling mules.

Lynchings - 1927
Discussions

White Press. (Northern)

2402

GAZETTE
SCHENECTADY, N. Y.
JUN 27 1927

VERBAL LYNCH LAW.

The conviction for manslaughter of two Jersey state troopers acting in conjunction with agents of the humane society will serve as a lesson to many kindly disposed persons who unwittingly employ brutality in an effort to curb the neglect of domestic animals.

The complaint is not infrequently made, and apparently with justice, that the complainants are nothing more than malicious and sometimes mercenary persons who, as in New Jersey, can collect half the fine in cases of conviction. Hundreds of cases are investigated and found without basis in fact.

In the New Jersey case a neighbor, as is frequently the case, was the complainant. An unavailing attempt at arrest was made by a local constable, the accused protesting that his cattle were well cared for; an irrelevant consideration of course so far as such processes of law are concerned, but not as irrelevant as bunglers of the law assumed in this case.

For next appeared a posse of state police who instituted a siege of the residence, crippling one member of the family and killing another. The two officers involved stand now convicted of manslaughter in exceeding their authority in the use of unnecessary violence.

Such officers are by no means a majority but well illustrate a type of stupidity in our police personnel in many places. They represent unintelligent performance of duty against persons who have on their side the legal presumption of innocence and are citizens under their protection against possibly false and malicious charges.

Of course there are always many practices of which good citizens may properly complain to the authorities. Very often we are really afraid and shirk our public responsibilities in such matters as come under our observation.

But there is always the liability in such personal complaints as are made of sinister motives of profit or hatred. So worse crimes are evolved in the processes of human nature in these unwarranted attempts to curb lesser ones by law.

Of course the law cure has its place, but earlier Americans fought shy of its remedies except as a last resort in serious matters. There unfortunately is a class of people today with the threat of law resting lightly upon the tips of their tongues. They use the law habitually upon their neighbors as a cruel servant to do all the dirty work they would shrink from doing personally.

Frequently they make mistakes from which there are evil consequences and no redress or justice. We have today a maudlin pity for the convict. But instances we notice a savage disregard for the rights of the unconvicted, from the ordinary country gossip and malice to the lynching habit. Verbal lynch law poisons our social and public life.

WE HEREBY AWARD the gold cup for the most impudent public utterance for the current month to Representative Albert Johnson of Washington. He won all three legs to the trophy by his bullyragging lecture to aliens threatening them with refusal of citizenship and even deportation for demonstrations in favor of Sacco and Vanzetti. Mr. Johnson has long been known as an extreme immigration restrictionist. He is entitled to his opinions in that regard, but he is not entitled to instruct aliens in this country how to conduct themselves, especially when he distorts law and fact in so doing. An alien has the same right of criticism as a citizen, and is likely to make a poor American unless he exercises it. A peaceable protest whether by strike or otherwise, in behalf of the lives of two fellow humans whom he believes to be innocent does not make an alien liable to deportation, Mr. Johnson to the contrary notwithstanding, nor is it what the latter describes as an "anti-government demonstration." Mr Johnson is also wrong when he says that had Sacco and Vanzetti been murdered by Americans our government would have had to pay Italy large damages. Did he ever hear of the New Orleans lynchings for which we paid Italy exactly nothing? Finally he says he hopes for legislation shortly making citizenship revocable. Maybe. The possibility for fool laws is always pretty nearly unlimited but we doubt if a majority in Congress can be obtained for any such welching shell game for all of Mr. Johnson's willing and expert assistance.

COMPLETE NEW YORK STATE SERVICE

Troy (Eve) Record
Friday, July 15, 1927

THE LYNCHING RECORD.

According to records compiled at Tuskegee Institute, there were nine lynchings during the first six months of the present year. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the year 1925 and 1926; it is four more than the number for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number for the first six months of 1923, twenty-one less than the number for the first six months of 1922, and twenty-seven less than the number for the first six months of 1921.

From these figures it will be observed that lynching has been out of favor since 1922, with the yearly number encouragingly low, although as long as there are any lynchings, whether nine or a third of nine, there are that number too many. There may at times be terrible provocation, but if the law cannot deal out justice to criminals, then it is the law that requires remedying or strengthening. The way to correct lawlessness is not by more lawless

PRESS-GAZETTE
GREEN BAY, WIS.
JUN 1 1927

A COURAGEOUS SHERIFF.

A mob in Tampa, Fla., a few days ago bumped its collective heads against a sheriff that was just as hard-boiled as it was and when the smoke had cleared away eleven persons had been wounded, but the man for whose life they clamored was still in the hands of the law. The Tampa sheriff apparently took his oath of office seriously, for he did not relinquish his prisoner when called upon to do so by several hundred infuriated citizens. The prisoner had confessed to a murder, and it was the intention of the mob to hang him to the nearest telephone pole.

The sheriff had other plans. He called in all his deputies and stood the mob off. When his small force was threatened with extermination at the hands of the civilians he reenforced them with 100 national guardsmen. He steood his ground and finally dispersed the mob. If a few more Southern sheriffs had backbones like that of Sheriff Hiers of Tampa there would be fewer lynchings and race riots.

Sheriff Hiers believed that whether the man was guilty or not, the law should take its course. It is the duty of the law to be hanged. It is the duty of the law to punish murderers. Mob rule leads nowhere but to violence and injustice. Oft-times innocent men have fallen victims to these infuriated bands and have paid with their lives. Surface evidence often leads one to the opinion that a certain person is guilty of a crime, but when the real facts are sifted out by the courts the suspected one is found innocent.

All crimes whether they are particularly brutal or not, should be left to the law. Ninety-nine times out of a hundred the guilty person will be punished. The mob spirit is dangerous and should be discouraged promptly and vigorously. It leads to a disrespect of all law and the rights of human beings. Every human being is entitled to a trial and it is the duty of law enforcement officers to see that he gets it. More power to Sheriff Hiers and his deputies.

southern cities as was demonstrated not long ago in Tampa, when a mob tried to lynch a prisoner. Every such manful stand on the part of public authority is a victory for civilization.

GAZETTE
Berkley Cal
AUG 1 1927

LYNCHINGS

The lynchings in the United States for the first six months of this year totaled nine, the same as last year. Is our national lynching

in a country which is often painted. No wonder lynchings diminish, when such a breed of public officials is developing in

POST
PITTSBURG, PA

AUG 3 1927

THE REACTION AGAINST LYNCH LAW.

Notwithstanding that only light fines were imposed, the conviction of three men and two women at Florence, Alabama, Monday, of having whipped another woman, whom they accused of scandalous conduct is encouraging as evidence that public sentiment in the South is arraying against that form of lynch law. This opinion is strengthened by the vigor with which the defendants in the Oneonta, Alabama, flogging case are being prosecuted. It is inconceivable that the Attorney General would personally take charge of the prosecution and that eighty-five persons would come forward to testify for the state if popular feeling were not opposed to such lawlessness as the whipping of Jeff Calloway, who was lashed by a band of masked men on the ground that he had gone to church in a drunken condition. It is noteworthy, too, that there have been determined prosecutions in similar cases in Georgia, and some convictions have been obtained.

The complacency with which the South tolerated the lynching of Negroes has borne fruit in the flogging affairs. It was inevitable that if people were to be permitted to take the law into their hands in the case of one kind of crime they would seek to usurp authority in other cases. The law-abiding people of Dixie, who, though they have been inert at times, have always constituted the majority, have awakened to the error of their course. Lynching is on the wane and prosecutions for lynching are now more frequent than formerly. If the spirit now being shown is maintained lynchings and floggings may become as scarce in the South as they are in the North

TRANSCRIPT
PEORIA, ILL.

JUN 2 1927

THE TAMPA MOB

Whether the sergeant who ordered his detail to open fire on the mob milling about the jail in Tampa, Fla., was justified, will probably be considered by experts. It appears he was as much prompted to take this drastic action because he had been hit in the head with a brick as because the mob was menacing the jail. Nevertheless, the results were sufficiently serious to justify national interest in the case. Three are known to be dead and more than a score wounded.

The case is unique in the annals of mob violence because it involves a continued 36-hour effort by a mob to storm a jail in spite of police, firemen, and finally troops. The object of the mob's wrath is a confessed slayer of five who is held in jail.

Mob violence is always deplorable. Sometimes it uncannily reveals popular temperament. In the Tampa case, the mob is apparently determined because of the ferocity of the man they are seeking to lynch. No race hatred or class struggle is involved. The mob was terrible because it represented a community outraged by a criminal whose confession indicates his offenses were committed in a manner that was almost inhuman.

The popular reaction to the Tampa mob will be condemnation. This will also be the attitude of the majority of law-abiding citizens. But the mob was more significant than the ribald crowds which lynch Negroes in the south, because it was indicative of a determined mass rebellion against the law.

NEWS
BELOIT, WIS.

JUN 3 1927

A LYNCHING THAT BACKFIRED

A LYNCHING mob got a dose of its own medicine this week at Tampa, Fla. Tampa has a sheriff who proceeded upon the somewhat novel plan of getting adequates protection for his jail before rather than after the mob had taken the prisoner out and hanged burned or riddled him with bullets.

This is unique procedure, not quite according to Hoyle in the lynching belt. It was effective, however, and ought to set an example to other sheriffs who have backbone and courage.

The sheriff's force repelled one attack on the jail. Then he had National Guardsmen summoned.

The mob persisted. A charge from the lynchers was met with a volley from the troops. Four died, a score are wounded. Probably there will be no more lynching attempts at Tampa for some time to come.

A sheriff who has courage and resourcefulness usually can foil a lynching. Too often these affairs betray only a supine attitude of easy surrender on the part of officers charged with defending the bodies of prisoners and upholding the dignity of the law.

TELEGRAM
SUPERIOR, WIS.

JUN 14 1927

Mississippi vs. Florida

A contrast is provided in the news between justice in Tampa, Florida, and Louisville, Mississippi, in the item in Monday's Evening Telegram which said that two negro slayers were taken from Sheriff Parmenter near Naxapater, Miss., and brought to Louisville and burned at the stake by a mob estimated at 1,000 after they had been paraded through the streets.

This puts Mississippi in a decidedly bad light when compared to the occurrence in Florida a few weeks ago in which five members of the mob which attempted to remove another slayer from the Tampa jail were killed by police and national guardsmen defending the jail at the request of the sheriff at Tampa.

The sheriff who allowed the mob to take the two negroes to Louisville and there subject them to such tortures as most citizens would believe to have been a thing of the most shameful recesses of past history, certainly was remiss in his duty unless he was completely overpowered and unuable to offer resistance, and in that case he must have been just as remiss for not taking necessary precautions to prevent such an occurrence.

It is very possible that the two negroes were guilty of the crime for which they were burned at the stake, but their unlawful deaths constitute a much greater crime. There are, no doubt, efficient courts of justice in Mississippi. It is hard for us of the north to understand just why they are not more often resorted to. What Louisville apparently needs is a sheriff like the one who stood off the mobs in Tampa—even when the jail was empty and the desired prisoner miles away!

NEW YORK
EVE. WORLD

JUN 18 1927

MISSISSIPPI'S "BEST CITIZENS"

Since we discussed the recent Mississippi mob which burned two Negroes at the stake and had the audacity to seriously propose marching into Alabama to lynch another, incarcerated in a jail and awaiting trial, more evidence has appeared that in Mississippi lynch law and race hatred have revived. No action has yet been taken to apprehend and punish the participants in the burning of the two Negroes. All that has been done has seemed like mockery.

Thus we have it that at Jackson, the capital of the State, where the Governor, charged with the enforcement of the law, resides, one thousand of the "best citizens" have "signed an agreement" to not lynch a Negro who is awaiting trial there! It is not easy to understand the mental or moral reactions of the "best citizens" who would not resent the request to sign such an agreement. One would think that a decent citizen, though one of the "best," would not relish being asked to bind himself with his signature to not murder.

And yet what is to be expected when a Judge delivers a harangue from the bench attacking the Negroes, praising the whites, and encouraging racial hatred? This particular Judge has figured in the press reports before as something of an ass, but he is on the bench and evidently feels that his course will not result in the termination of his career.

Mississippi cannot afford to thus pillory herself before the Nation. It is to be assumed that she has courts where justice can be promptly meted out and that outrages on the part of Negroes—or whites—can be punished without delay. Not long ago she had a Governor who used the militia vigorously in preventing lynchings; it is evident that her present Governor, by the death of his predecessor, falls far short of his duty.

BROOKLYN EAGLE

AUG 4 1927

DEBATE LYNCHING AT HEIGHTS FORUM

Some Approve, Some Don't. Indigestion Talk Follows.

Lynching is justifiable under certain conditions, Mrs. E. Seibert maintained last night before members of the Brooklyn Heights Public Forum at its regular meeting at P. S. 15, State st. and 3d ave. She said that if her daughter were attacked by a negro she would lead a lynching party.

Mrs. Seibert was answered by J. T. Kewish, also a forum member, who asserted that those who approve lynching and members of the Ku-Klux Klan are in the same category, because they equally believe in taking the law into their own hands.

William J. Dilthey, the chairman, warned forumites that those who congregate on the sidewalk after adjournment for further discussion of subjects, violate the law and are liable to arrest, because they have no police permit for outdoor meetings.

His warning followe dremarks by W. W. Leech, another member, on a story, published in The Eagle last Thursday, telling how police had been sought to stop a squabble over the Sacco-Vanzetti case.

Dr. Jacob Lane talked on "Digestion," urging his hearers to eat slowly, masticate thoroughly and to banish harsh feelings. Asked for the best means of overcoming nervousness, Dr. Lane advised public speaking, cold water baths, fresh air and good food.

AUG 4 1927

BROOKLYN TIMES

HEIGHTS FORUM HITS LYNCHING OF NEGROES

Resolution Adopted after Considerable Discussion.

The Brooklyn Heights Public Forum last night in the auditorium of Public School 15, Third ave. and State st., adopted a resolution offered by William J. Dilthey, president, opposing the lynching of negroes.

The resolution was received like a bomb in a camp, and brought forth considerable discussion for and against before it was carried.

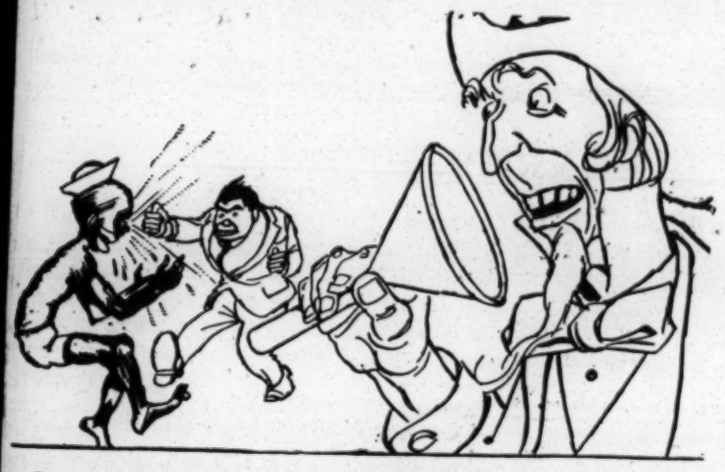
Dr. Jacob Lane spoke on food and digestion, advising slow eating and plenty of exercise.

Before adjourning the meeting the chairman requested that the members go to their homes quietly and not renew any of the discussions on the sidewalk.

Lynchings- 1927
Discussions.

White Press, (Northern.)

2403



LATIN AMERICANS: "If we decide to settle our disputes among ourselves, Uncle Sam intervenes angrily—

But if Lynch Law is freely applied somewhere in the United States, Uncle Sam smiles benevolently."

—*Corre Vuela* (Santiago, Chile).

CHILEAN SARCASM FOR UNCLE SAM

Literary Digest 1-1-27

IN NEW JERSEY the lawlessness of the police has suffered a just and heartening rebuke; the hearing before a coroner's jury on the attack made by New Jersey State Police on a farmer's family, in which a woman was killed and her brother lamed for life, has resulted in a charge of murder against twelve policemen, and, without waiting for court action, the superintendent of the Constabulary has conducted an investigation which has led to charges against three of the troopers of "wanton, brutal" assault, "without justification," failing to render first aid, false report, and misappropriation of property. But in South Carolina, where three Negroes were lynched because of the refusal of the Sheriff and his deputies to protect their prisoners, the Aiken County grand jury reported, after listening to thirteen witnesses: "We do not find that sufficient evidence has come before us to warrant us to ask for indictments." That is, as predicted, nobody who took part in the lynching expected to suffer for his lawless and abominable act. Nobody even thought it worth while to conceal the fact that a lynching was to take place. The action of the grand jury in failing to bring indictments reflects deeply on the State and on itself. The new Governor of South Carolina, too, has uttered brave words: "There can be no justification of lynch law, I care not what the offense. . . . I promise the people of South Carolina that if it lies in my power the Aiken lynchers shall be brought to justice." It remains to be seen, therefore, whether it is within the power of South Carolina to bring the lynchers to justice.

ARGUS
MOUNT VERNON, N. Y.
JAN 13 1927

ANTI-LYNCHI BILL ENDORSE.

Federation of Christian Women of Mount Vernon

The January meeting of the Federation of Christian Women held at the Church of the Ascension yesterday was most spirited and replete with interest.

Mrs. Walter King Cooley, the president, presided and the rector, Rev. Melford Losee Brown, welcomed the organization. Mrs. Cooley introduced Mrs. Bayer, president of the Westchester Woman's club, who, in a short address, stressed the importance of federation. She spoke of the large number of club women who are actively engaged in church work.

The devotional part of the meeting was led by Mrs. Herbert A. Whitcombe. Mrs. Whitcombe made a strong plea for a "re-dedication of ourselves to our great work." Her message was that "only as we function, can our church function." "Only through personal dedication of our lives to Jesus Christ, can we hope to bring our efforts to fruition. It must be through sincere effort in our daily living to follow with humility the example of our Savior. We must know our church and dare to face all it asks of us. Try to understand the whole program of the church, all that the church stands for. Thus shall we grow kind, loving and tolerant to everybody, trusting Christ."

The business meeting followed. Minutes of November's meeting by the secretary, Mrs. Deering. Report of the treasurer, Mrs. DeWitt; report of the corresponding secretary, Mrs. Sheppard; report of program committee, Mrs. Gebbard.

Mrs. Harry P. Willcox as chairman of legislation committee, suggested some amendments to the constitution of the organization, which will be acted upon at the April meeting.

Mrs. Cooley announced that the annual day of prayer would take place on March 4 at the First M. E. church, corner of Eighth avenue and Second street. There will be a morning session at 10:30 o'clock. Luncheon will be served by the ladies of the church. After luncheon there will be a short session which will merge into the Women's Bartholow Bible class. Rev. Dr. O. F. Bartholow will be the speaker.

The speaker of the afternoon was Rev. Dr. Henry H. Proctor, who was introduced by Mrs. Harry P. Willcox. Dr. Proctor is pastor of a large church in Brooklyn. He is a graduate of Fiske university and of Yale Divinity school. He was commissioned by General Pershing as spiritual advisor to negro troops in France.

He opened his remarks by saying what a unique part woman has had in the work of Jesus. Not a woman ever did an unkind thing to Jesus. Men crucified Him—it was left to woman to comfort Him. The very first time that Jesus revealed Himself as the Messiah, it was to the woman at the well, 'I am He.' A woman was the first commissioned preacher of the Gospel, for Christ said to Mary, 'Go and tell.'"

"I bring you a message of love from my people. I think among the twelve million of my race in the United States, we have worked out, within the last 60 years, 90 per cent. of the illiteracy and we have not learned the word hate.

"We are not foreigners but to the manor-born, for the first group of American negroes came to this country in 1619.

"When four millions of my race were set free there was no Moses to lead them. Now we pay taxes on two billion dollars' worth of property. Within the last ten years, one million have come north. They were invited. Laborers were needed.

"Wherever the white man lives, he stands for justice. In the last 40 years, in the southland, 3,500 men, women and children have been shot or lynched without law, no man punished for it. My race has been held back from the light for 300 years. We come to you for light. We do not come only to get but to give physically and spiritually, but to do this we must love each other. These two races must co-operate.

"Over in France, it was the colored troops who buried our boys. I said to them there, America will not forget and I still believe America will not forget."

The women of the federation received this address with enthusiasm.

Mrs. Willcox moved that this body go on record as favoring the Dyre anti-lynching bill. This motion was carried. Resolutions of thanks to the Church of the Ascension and to those taking part, were passed.

The meeting closed with the singing by all, of the "Battle Hymn of the Republic," led by Mrs. Farber and the benediction pronounced by Rev. Dr. Proctor.

Col
SUN
BALTIMORE, MD.
JAN 26 1927

Problem In Sociology.

Aiken, South Carolina, was recently the scene of one of the most inhuman acts of mob violence in all the long and bloody history of lynching.

Four Negroes, one of them a woman, charged with the murder of an officer of the law but not convicted, were taken from the jail by a mob. One was wounded when he tried to escape and then dragged behind a car to the scene of the lynching. "Bertha, the girl, was not quite killed at the first volley and dragged her wounded body over the ground, screaming, until killed by bullets at such close range that her clothes were set on fire."

A grand jury in Aiken county, the scene of the crime, is now considering the evidence laid before it as to the members of the mob. According to R. Charlton Wright, the man who has done more than any other to try to remove the stain of this affair from the name of South Carolina, there is grave danger that the grand jury will do nothing and that no punishment will be meted out to the offenders.

What will happen is on the lap of the gods. But there arises, nevertheless, an interesting sociological problem. How does it happen that South Carolina can view with equanimity the supineness of her

courts and her government in this matter?

It is impossible to believe that the people of South Carolina are essentially different from other Americans. Traditionally, it is true, they have a finer heritage than most of us. They gave more than their share of great men to the nation at the time of its founding, and for many decades they have contributed to the best thought of the land.

Other Southern States, notably North Carolina, have successfully undertaken the prosecution and punishment of lynchers. North Carolina, indeed, has become a sort of national wonder because she has succeeded in breaking down that conspiracy of silence which protected lynchers and has made it clear that mob rule would not be tolerated. Even Georgia, once the lynching capital of the country, has taken a turn for the better.

South Carolina is not in her essence different from these. Like them, she is filled with State pride. Like them, her business interests spend great sums of money every year calling to the attention of the country at large the high state of culture her citizens have achieved.

And yet they are willing, apparently, to stand inertly by and let the reputation of the State be sacrificed. In order that a few men who have forfeited all right to consideration shall be protected against the law, they are willing that South Carolina shall bear the indelible stain that this thing will put upon her.

Frankly, the situation is beyond us. Perhaps the sociologists can tell how such things can be. If they can, our columns are open to them.

N. Y. WORLD

FEB 1 1927

PRAISE FIGHT ON AIKEN MOB

Special Despatch to The World

ATLANTA, Jan. 31.—The expressed determination of Gov. Richards to try to bring the Aiken S. C., lynchers to justice, despite refusal of the Grand Jury to indict, was praised by the Executive Committee of the Commission on Inter-racial Co-operation here yesterday, in a resolution urging the people of South Carolina to support their Governor.

NEW YORK GRAPHIC

FEB 1 1927

Coolidge Urged To Help Punish Negro Lynching

Federal intervention to stamp out the lynching evil was urged in a telegram of protest sent yesterday to President Coolidge by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Pres. Coolidge

This action was taken, according to Walter White, assistant secretary of the association, because of the failure of the Aiken county (S. C.) grand jury to indict members of a mob which lynched three members of a colored family one of them a woman, on October 8.

Names of members of the mob including several officers of the law, were submitted to former Governor Thomas G. McLeod by Mr White, who made a personal investigation of the lynching.

This evidence, supported by affidavits from other inmates of the jail from which the victims were taken, is now in the hands of the present governor, John G. Richards, who also received a telegram from the association yesterday, asking for the immediate issuance of warrants for the accused members of the mob.

N. Y. EVE. WORLD

JAN 27 1927

LIGHT IN SOUTH CAROLINA

The new Governor of South Carolina, John G. Richards, has taken his position four-square in favor of the prosecution and punishment of the unnamed citizens of Aiken County who took part in the lynching of the Lowmans, who were in the custody of the officers of the law. He minces no words in characterizing that lynching as "murder," and the participants as murderers. He explains the present lack of action as follows:

> "Now the State has strong evidence but is powerless to actually try any one unless the Aiken Grand Jury first presents for trial those who are connected with this terrible affair."

We have the promise of such pressure as the State may be able to bring to bear on Aiken County to secure proper Grand Jury action. The responsibility for non-action is localized. It is fair to assume the State as a whole is genuinely distressed by a condition which reflects upon it as a law-abiding community. It is fair to remember, too, that there may have been many instances in the North within the memory of man when crimes have gone unpunished because the cowardice or sympathy of a community in which the crimes were committed made it difficult or impossible to get action. A Governor can remove a District Attorney who fails to do his duty, but there is nothing that he can do to force Grand Jury action.

The problem is South Carolina's. The decent people of that old Commonwealth have had their position stated by a Governor who is evidently not afraid to challenge the demagogy of Cole Blease. That is something.

N. Y. AMERICAN

FEB 2 1927

Aiken Lynching Branded as Sin

COLUMBIA, S. C., Feb. 1. (AP).—A resolution commending Gov. Richards for his expressed determination to bring to justice the lynchers of three members of the Lowman family, negroes, at Aiken, was adopted unanimously today by the South Carolina Senate.

The resolution termed the lynching a "disgrace to our State and a sin against humanity."

The negroes, awaiting trial on a charge of murder, were taken from the jail and shot to death. One was a woman. A grand jury failed to return indictments.

N. Y. EVE. POST

JAN 17 1927

COOLIDGE TO BAR LYNCHINGS

President Promises Aid to End Unlawful Executions

President Coolidge has promised representatives of the National Negro Development Union and the National Centre Political party to take steps to stop lynchings. This was announced today by Mrs. Ruth Whitehead Whaley, a lawyer, 206 Broadway, who has just returned from Washington, where she and Professor S. R. Williams had a conference with the President.

The President, she said, declared he would take up with the Attorney General a proposal to declare martial law in any county where a lynching occurred on the theory that a riotous uprising was imminent or had existed. She told the President negroes had no faith in Federal anti-lynching bills.

N. Y. WORLD

FEB 2 1927

SENATE SCORES AIKEN MOB

South Carolina Legislators Commend Governor's Fight on Lynchers

COLUMBIA, S. C., Feb. 1 (A. P.)—A resolution commending Gov. Richards for his expressed determination to bring to justice the lynchers of three members of the Lowman family, Negroes, at Aiken, was adopted unanimously to-day by the South Carolina Senate.

The Negroes, awaiting trial on a charge of murder, were taken from the jail and shot to death. One of them was a woman. A Grand Jury failed to return indictments.

The resolution termed the lynching as a "disgrace to our State and a sin against humanity."

Lynchings – 1927
Discussions.

White Press, (Northern).

2404

A Lynching Affair - Story By Ellen Wetherell

WHEN Sarah arose to go to her room, I asked her if she ever felt lonely alone. "Sometimes," said she, "when the man dat war hung comes round."

Daily Worker

"The man that was hung! A dead man, Sarah?"

"Yesum, the man that war hung here in Red City on the big oak fo' the court house."

"Hung here, on an oak before the court house, Sarah?"

"Yesum, I seen em do it," replied Sarah.

1-18-27

"You saw them do it, Sarah?" I asked, horrified.

"Yessum, I jes crowded in 'til Ise got right under the tree; I seen his legs kick, an' his tongue hangin' out, my golly, didn't his eyes pop pow'ful."

Sarah was getting excited over her picture and so was I.

"Go on," I cried, "even if we get no sleep tonight."

Chicago

"Ise tole ye all I knows," said Srah. "You asks Amos Green, he ell yo mo; he war dar lookin' on, n' all de white folks in de city."

"Horrible, horrible. I cried, "go to ed Sarah and may the dead man's host haunt you all night.

In the early morning, as the sun was thrusting its yellow spokes up over the rim of the earth, and the silver dew was cool upon the grass, I crept cautiously around to the little vine covered cabin, where the old preacher, Amos Green, slept and ate. I found him making coffee for his breakfast. He was to chop wood over in the pine tract and got 'round early.

"Mr. Green, will you tell me about the man that was lynched from the big oak last year?" I asked abruptly.

Amos Green grumbled. "You wants toe shere 'bout dat murder pow'ful toe come fo' breakfast. I wants my coffee. Ise feelin' powerful weak."

"Oh, I will wait right here on the steps, have your breakfast, Mr. Green." As I spoke I dropped onto the low wooden steps before the door and looked around. Roses and roses. Thousands of the wild white cherokee running riotiously over trellises, decorating the fences, hiding unsightly walls. Roses and roses, enriching the air and beautifying the sight. I put my questions immediately on Amos Green taking a seat beside me on the steps.

"What did the poor Negro do that the people should lynch him? Did Mr. Green not know that such work was against the law?"

"They said," here Amos paused and again repeated, "they said that the poor Negro insulted a white woman."

"That was a wicked act." I replied.

Amos Green lifted up his head proudly; he had a mass of white hair and in his solemn black eyes there was a world of scorn. "A wicked act," he repeated after me, but not true, said Amos Green. Then he seemed to hesitate ere he spoke again. "It done no good, white lady, toe take Club Jackson from the jail an' hang him toe the oak tree."

"Did you witness this lynching?" I asked. "Sarah tells me that she saw it all and that you could tell me of it better than she could, for you made a powerful plea for the Negro."

"I seen it, the whole of it an'it war pow'ful hard to look on."

"I believe you Mr. Green," said I. "But why did not the law interfere, or the respectable people of the city?"

Amos Green threw back his head again and with withering scorn in his eyes he cried, "Ah! Yah! Ah! Yah! You doan know all. It war the respectable peoples dat done it an' de law looked on an' said nothin'."

"I never likes toe say much 'bout it for' I has cole chills when I does, but yosso mighty anxious I tells yo.'

"Chub Jackson runs in toe the woods an' tries toe hide, but the officers with the dogs runs him down an' shuts up Chub Jackson in the jail. The white peoples hears 'bout cotchin him an' how hes in the jail house, an' they goes down an' tells the jailor that they mus' have Chub Jackson, or they burn the jail down.

"What fo'," said the jailor.

"Toe hang him 'till hes dead," said they.

"But that's the law's work an' not yourn," said the jailer.

"Fotch him out," said they, "or we'll come in an' fotch him."

"The jailer never sai dno, but wid a big key he onlocked the do of the room whar Chub Jackson war, an' fotches him so the peoples sees him.

"Chub Jackson's face war as white as yourn ma' an' he tremles an' tremles. He had the hand cuffs on so he could do nothin' desprit. I tell you' twar mighty solemn to see Chub stan thar a shaking, an' them dogs a-leapin' toe get at him, thar red tongues a-likin' the air. I tries toe get clos to Chub toe speak a religious word, fur I knows what war a-comin'. But the peoples drive me back an' say: "Let him go toe hell whar he b'longs. Doan' yo' waste any of yo ole prayers on him." Then I tries toe pray alound whar I war, reckonin' Chub Jackson might cotch a word toe take with him.

"But the peoples scritch so mighty loud I couldn't doe nothin'. Then I tries toe come away, but it war toe ate, the rope war 'roun' Chubs' neck in' two mens war haulin' him up. Chubs' face, twitchin, purple, swung roun' toe me. His legs war flying up an' down an' doin' a heap of kickin. I couldnt stan it no mo, an' I jes dropped on toe my knees an' prays.

"O, Lord," I cries, "speak toe this po' creature's heart in the midst of his dyin' agony. If he have wickedness in that heart let it be taken out. Remembers no sin against him, O Lord O Lord, on Calv'ry thy blood war spilled fo' Chub Jackson, an' now O Lord, carry long thy work toe his salvation. The law of the state has bene vi'lated in this murder, Chub Jackson should have been tried by the courts, O Lord! An' eye fur an' eye the Ole Test'ment say; but you say 'A new law I gibs untoe yo' that no lubs one another.' The peoples say that Chub Jackson done that wicked act, but, yo, O Lord, knows better, an I knows better. If Chub Jackson have rum in him an' he acted as if he war wicked, please O Lord, forgive him for that; White mens have done worse an' never hung for it. Never yo forgits, O Lord, of this black man's ignorance, de ignorance of his father an' mother befo' him, the ignorance of them way back in slavery days, an' long befo' in black Africa. Member, O Lord, that they comes not by demselves but war brot here in chains, an' kept in chains 'till that day of 'Mancipation.

"The white mans am a murdering Chub Jackson we knows O Lord! He should have been tried in the courts the same as the white mens am. Twar Chub Jackson right as a citizen of these United States. None ob de white people here hab any sympathy wid Chub Jackson, they all be' leve de lie tols, but thy sympathy O Lord, am mighty to save. O Lord, forgive them pussons dat am committin' dis awful crime, but above all save Chub Jackson thet am a comin' into thy presence dis very minute."

The old preacher stopped, he had learned the prayer by heart, he knew he was in the right and that the people who were guilty of the lynching were wrong. Amos Green raised a ragged sleeve and wiped his steaming face. "It am pow'ful hard toe go over that scene," he said.

The tropical sunshine was falling hot thru the interstices in the heavy foliage. A mocking bird was trilling an aria on the rosebush just beside me. Away up among the fleecy clouds a flock of buzzards were dipping their wings to the morning breeze.

I turned to Amos Green. "Was any one arrested and tried for that murder of Chub Jackson?"

"No ma'am," said the preacher. "All the white folks say, 'Sarved the nigger right'."

NEW YORK
Herald & Tribune

FEB 13 1927

Racial Amity in Aiken

Notoriety of a Single Lynching Shadows South Carolina's Comparatively Good Record

To the New York Herald Tribune:

The prominence accorded a recent lynching episode at Aiken, S. C., has given an entirely false impression of the conditions prevailing there. A visitor from the North expects to find an incipient race riot brewing on every street corner, to observe bands of white men armed with sawed-off shotguns and coils of rope lying in wait for luckless Negroes. On the contrary, a more peaceful town never drowsed in Southern sunshine, and the relations between the white and colored inhabitants are markedly amicable.

South Carolinians of the best and most representative class make no effort to condone lynching per se. Nor do they attempt to justify the overriding of a court decision, as was done in the case which was given so much publicity. They simply feel that the notoriety given to a single episode was unfortunate in view of the fact that the lynching record of the state is comparatively very low and that the figures have been steadily decreasing.

The writer recently spent several weeks in Aiken, and, although his eyes are in excellent condition, did not observe a single instance of racial hostility. In the case of minor offenders brought up at the police court, Negroes are treated with more leniency than whites. The colored law-breakers frequently elect to work out their very reasonable sentences on the roads, becoming members of the so-called "chain gang," a term which in the public mind is a synonym for cruel hardship and abuse. The Negroes of the chain gang, however, obviously find life

pleasant enough. They are not compelled to work very hard. A happy-go-lucky crew, they are content so long as they have food and shelter. The Southern sun shines just as brightly on road menders as on a millionaire rolling along in a Rolls-Royce. Moreover, Negro members of the gang are allowed to go to their homes at night. The white officials know that they will be on hand in the morning, and very sensibly take the view that there is no necessity for keeping them cooped up in jail over night.

Surely it stands to reason that this privilege would not be granted unless the general attitude of whites toward Negroes was a kindly one. Instead of being treated as dangerous criminals, colored persons who commit small breaches of the law are regarded as naughty but lovable children, for Southerners really like Negroes and understand them. Colored servants on plantations in South Carolina still show a marked feudal dependency and feudal loyalty. In return they are allowed all sorts of little privilegea.

The contention that Negro prisoners are well treated in South Carolina is further borne out by this paragraph, which appeared in a Charleston newspaper on December 24 last: "County Sheriff Joseph M. Poulnot has arranged plenty of smoking tobacco for the prisoners in the county jail. From a local cigar company he has purchased 100 packages of cigarettes and twenty-five tins of pipe tobacco. The prisoners will get these to-morrow with the Sheriff's compliments." The great majority of prisoners referred to are Negroes.

The lynching record of South Carolina, it has been said, is very low in comparison with that of other Southern states. Figures, though not exciting witnesses, are reliable, so let us hale them into court without apologies. The Tuskegee Institute reports that between the years 1889 and 1925 129 Negroes were lynched in South Carolina. This compares with 406 in Mississippi, 433 in Georgia, 266 in Alabama, 203 in Arkansas, 209 in Florida, 287 in Louisiana and 280 in Texas. During the year 1925 not a single lynching occurred in South Carolina, though seventeen took place in other states. No Negro has ever been lynched in the city or county of Charleston.

The general decrease of lynching in the United States does not appear to be fully realized. The seventeen cases of 1925 may be compared with the thirty-three of 1923 and the fifty-seven of 1922. Ten of the victims lynched in 1925 were taken from the hands of the law. Between 1885 and 1894 1,078 Negroes and 643 whites were lynched; in the next decade the figures were 690 Negroes and 270 whites; from 1904 to 1914 lynchings totaled 701, and from 1915 to 1924, 537.

"The fact that practically all the Negro laborers of the state are unskilled workers," the editor of a Charleston newspaper told me, "helps to prevent trouble, since these workers do not compete with skilled white workers as they do in the North. Although some 125,000 persons are employed in the cotton mills operating in the upper part of South Carolina, none of them are Negroes. Moreover, we have no race wars here. Until this Aiken case came along we had come to believe that we were through with lynching. We South Carolinians will be grateful to have the public reminded that despite this unfortunate case the lynching record of the state is very low, and that we recoil as strongly as any Northerner from lynchings which are made an excuse for sadistic orgies." R. H.

New York, Feb. 8, 1927.

N. Y. WORLD

JAN 19 1927

NEW S. C. GOVERNOR MUM ON LYNCHINGS

Richards, McLeod's Successor, Fails to Mention Aiken in Inaugural Address

BUT DENOUNCES ATHEISM

Would Bar Teachers Who Do Not Believe in God

Special Despatch to The World

COLUMBIA, S. C., Jan. 18.—John G. Richards, first Governor of South Carolina to take office for a continuous term of four years, was sworn in to-day with the usual ceremonies. His inaugural address contained no reference to the lynchings at Aiken last October which The World investigated.

It had been assumed that the new Governor would declare himself specifically with regard to the lynchings, especially as last Friday he had a long conference with Gov. McLeod, whom he succeeds, at which the evidence assembled by State Detective Rogers was gone over. Mr. Richards is said to have expressed himself as being very much impressed by it.

Many citizens have expressed themselves as being greatly disappointed that the new Governor did not take this opportunity to declare himself in emphatic terms about the Aiken crime and to pledge himself to do everything in his power to have the criminals punished.

On the subject of lawlessness Gov. Richards said:

"If there is any period of our State's history except just before and during reconstruction in which there has been a more general disregard for law and its sacred majesty, then I am not conversant with it."

He attributed this to the circumstance that men in high and responsible positions and men in public office were known themselves to be lawbreakers.

Among the interesting recommendations of the new Governor was that no man or woman who denies or even questions the existence of a Supreme Being and man's personal dependence on Him should be employed in any of the colleges or public schools of the State.

He admonishes all trustees to use their authority and utmost diligence to prevent employment of any teacher suspected of atheism or even the taint of atheism or agnosticism. Later in the day a bill was introduced in the House of Representatives to prevent the teaching of evolution in any State supported school or institution.

COOLIDGE DECRIES LYNCHING

Delegates of Negroes Find Him Sympathetic to Plea for Aid.

Mrs. Ruth Whitehead Whaley, an attorney, of 206 Broadway, and Professor [illegible] were appointed representatives of the National Negro Development Union and the National Center Political Party to ask President Coolidge for aid in preventing lynchings of negroes, have returned from Washington, where they saw the President on Friday. They said they were encouraged by the Presidential reception.

"The President deplored the fact of lynching," said Mrs. Whaley, "and said that if the United States was unable to protect its negro citizens it was in fact unable to protect any of its citizens. He promised to take up with the Attorney General the suggestion of having martial law declared in the place where negroes were lynched just as soon as the lynching occurred on the theory that a riotous uprising was imminent or had existed."

Mrs. Whaley said the President had been told that negroes had no faith in the efficiency of anti-lynching bills such as the Dyer bill but relied, instead, on the enforcement of the Thirteenth, Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments for protection.

She said the President's manner had been "most cordial and sympathetic."

Nella Rica, Ga.

Bruns. JAN 14 1927

NOT IN GEORGIA

News reports alleging that a negro had been lynched "at Waldo, 70 miles from Gainesville, Georgia," prove fortunately to have been erroneous.

The lynching refered to was in Florida, and the "Gainesville" referred to is the prosperous university city of that name in that state.

Based upon the news item which was before us at the time, we editorially discussed it as another Georgia affair, in conjunction with the wave of night riding, flogging, etc., that had been sweeping over some sections of this state.

It is to be regretted that mob violence shall exist anywhere. The south has suffered much from its mobs although it is not the only section of the country in which the mob spirit has thrived. We believe the situation is improving. If the officials in Tooms county, and Judge Hardeman and Solicitor Bradley, can round up and properly punish the culprits who engaged in the recent flogging in that county, similar to the way a group of night riders were recently rounded up and given long sentence in Judge Reed's court in Coffee county, we will be making progress in Georgia.

We are glad the lynching referred to as having occurred "70 miles from Gainesville" did not occur in Georgia to add to a 1926 mob record that was already most disgrace.—Atlanta Constitution.

Lynchings - 1927
Discussions.

White Press, (Southern)

2405

News
CHARLESTON
SOUTH CAROLINA
MAY 11 1927

Punish the Lynchers

At Little Rock representative business and professional men are demanding that the grand jury immediately investigate "the conduct of Mayor Moyer, Chief of Police Rotenbury and Sheriff Haynie in their failure to take any action to quell Wednesday night's mob" and "the indictment and removal from office of every officer found derelict of his duty," in the language of the report in the Arkansas Gazette. These demands were incorporated in a resolution adopted by these business and professional men who "pledge to the investigating body and authorities any amount of money necessary to aid it in its inquiry."

In part the resolutions as published in The Gazette say:

First. We deplore and condemn the lynching of John Carter, and we condemn without stint the dastardly conduct of the mob in dragging his body through the streets of the city and burning it.

Second. We urge the grand jury of Pulaski County, now in session, to investigate immediately the conduct of the sheriff, the mayor and the police department, and also that of their respective subordinates who knew of the action of the mob and took no steps to stop it; and that an indictment be returned against every officer shown by the facts to have been guilty of a dereliction of duty, to be followed by removal from office and by punishment under the criminal laws of the State.

Third. We urge the prosecuting attorney and his assistants to render every aid in their power to the grand jury in ascertaining the guilty parties, and to prosecute those who may be indicted.

Fifth. We offer to furnish to the constituted authorities any amount of money that may be necessary to aid them in bringing all of the guilty parties to justice.

Sixth. We commend the official action of Battery H, 206th coast artillery, Arkansas National Guard, and Capt. Harry H. Smith, in dispersing the mob before further damage could be done.

Seventh. We commend the public press for the splendid stand that it has taken with reference to the outrage that has been committed in our city.

The preamble to the resolution asserts that it was "publicly known for an hour or two before the burning actually took place. Practically every policeman was assembled in the city hall. Not one ventured to disperse the mob though Major Pitcock offered to do so and declared that with a few chosen men he could do so. . . . Neither the sheriff nor any of his men made the slightest effort to stop the mob. The mayor, apparently with full knowledge of what was about to happen, either left the city or went to some place where he could not be reached. . . . If our county and city peace officers, especially those at the head of authority, are found to have been guilty of things set forth above, every one who shirked his duty and permitted a mob to take possession of the city should be removed from office just as soon as legal procedure can accomplish that end and should be punished of the full extent of the criminal laws of this State."

On the face of the reports, representative citizens of Little Rock mean to do whatever they can to bring the lynchers to a reckoning and in this attitude they will have the moral support of other American citizens. The Little Rock lynching was a dreadful crime and its perpetrators ought not to be allowed to escape unscathed. South Carolina can not censure Arkansas for this ugly breach of law in view of the lack of punishment for Aiken County and other lynchers, and what is said about the Little Rock crime applies in principle to the Aiken crime. Lynching is one of the most hideous deeds and officers have no excuse for not bringing lynchers to justice. Should Little Rock's good citizens succeed in their course, by so much will be the stain on Southern civilization be lessened.

NEWS
Florence - Ala
JUN 1 1927

Negro Lynchings Become Frequent In Mississippi.

Our good friends and neighbors over in Mississippi ought to take a walk around in the fresh air and cool down a bit.

Four times within the last month, Mississippi mobs have lynched negroes, and there was considerable agitation just yesterday in favor of proceeding to Montgomery and lynching another one. Two were burned alive last Sunday at Louisville, Miss., and this is carrying matters pretty far.

It is freely admitted that every one of the crimes for which these negroes were lynched seemed to justify swift justice of some sort, but a man would hate to have had a hand in the kind of justice which was handed out.

It is a deplorable thing that our law-courts move so slowly and with such faltering steps when they do move. But they are the best law courts we have.

When any more negroes are to be burned at the stake, we sincerely trust that it may be over on the other side of the line, for Mississippi's most recent performance was not one which her citizens can feel particularly proud of.

~~BRISTOL, VA., TENN~~ Herald.
MAY 6 1927

Another Brutal Lynching.

There has been another brutal lynching, the scene this time being laid in Little Rock, Arkansas. Early Wednesady morning a young Negro of that city attacked two white women and a mob was promptly formed to hunt for him. By the time he was found, hidden in a tree, the mob had grown to a thousand or more and lost no time in hanging him to a tree, after which they used the dangling body as a target for their guns. Later in the day the bullet-riddled body was cut down and tied to the rear of an automobile, dragged through the principal street of the city to the Negro quarter, and there saturated with oil and burned.

There have been few if any more brutal lynchings than this; and what did the mob accomplish? Nothing except to wreak its insane fury on its victim and bring disgrace to the community and the State. The Negro had committed a serious crime, but it was not necessary for a mob to mete out extreme punishment to him, with or without an exhibition of savagery that is a challenge to civilization. The law would have given him the punishment he deserved. It would not have hung him to a tree and shot him up and then made a bonfire of his body, but it would have put him to death in an orderly and decent manner.

What will Little Rock and Arkansas do about this revolting outrage? Are we to see an investigation and a few gestures by the responsible authorities that will amount to nothing in the end as is so often the case? The Southern States should be warned in time that if they continue to permit mobs to operate with impunity the Federal Government will eventually step in to suppress mob lawlessness.

HERALD
LEXINGTON, KY.
JUN 27 1927

A Mississippi Mob

Few measures have caused more heated discussion in congress than the proposal for a federal anti-lynching law. Many of the representatives of the southern states have opposed such a law on the grounds that the states can sufficiently guard against lynching.

Only recently there came the news from Mississippi of the deeds of a mob which perpetrated what a recent issue of The Nation refers to as "an act of fiendishness possible only in the United States." A mob of one thousand American citizens took two negroes, who were brothers, from the hands of a sheriff, tied them to a telephone pole, poured gasoline on their bodies and burned them alive. Their agony was such that one member of the mob, inspired by nobler impulses, tried to beat out the flames and to rescue them, but the other members of the mob quickly took him captive and restrained him so that he could not render aid.

These two men were accused of having killed in a quarrel the superintendent of a saw mill where they were employed. They had not been proved guilty. They were not seeking to escape but they were in the hands of the law.

As usual in such cases, the sheriff's efforts to resist the mob were of little avail and there is some question as to whether a very strenuous defense for the prisoners was made. "Because of the darkness" the officers were unable to recognize any members of the band.

In Kentucky there is a law providing for the removal by the governor of officers from whom mobs take prisoners. During recent years there has been a very decided reduction in the number of lynchings. Public resentment against mob violence has had meritorious effects. Cases like these, however, if the state of Mississippi does not take proper action, will certainly strengthen the cause of those who are seeking a federal anti-lynching law.

EUFAULA, ALA.,
Citizen
APR 9 1927

NO LYNCHINGS IN ALABAMA IN 1926—

There was not a single lynching in Alabama during the year 1926.

We congratulate ourselves. That's fine. But many of our sister states didn't do so well, for we are told there were 30 illegal executions in the United States last year, which is 13 more than the year before.

While Georgia, our sister to the east, had a lynching in 1926, be it said to her everlasting credit that something like a score of those implicated in the crime are now serving adequate sentences in the state penitentiary. There has been too little legal action taken in these mob crimes, else there would have long ago been a decrease of such crimes. Two wrongs will not make a right, and it is a crime for unauthorized forces to take the law into their own hands, it matters not how guilty the culprit may be. And, when action is taken by others than legally constituted forces, there is always the liklihood of mistaken indentity, and there have been cases of this kind a-plenty.

Deplorable as are these exhibitions of barbaric blood lust, aroused by revolting crimes, even though they are, there is a sameness about them all, whether they occur in Chicago, Atlanta, St. Louis or in the state that is associated with the exploits of John Brown. Human nature is very much the same north and south. Crime of a certain type always stirs a desire for swift vengeance. Self restraint under such conditions is the test of community's respect for law.

More and more there is growing up in all sections of the country the feeling that mob law is a mistake, a grevious blot on the reputation of the people—who flout the orderly process of justice and take vengeance into their own hands. There have been many cases where innocent men, white and black, have been saved from too swift justice only by timely discovery of evidence that exonerated them.

The inescapable effects of mob violence are that the dignity of the law is dragged in the mire, bad feeling is generated and what little deterrent may be exercised upon those inclined to commit similar crimes is offset by the permanent damage done to the cause of law and order. Thus the practice defeats its own purpose.

Why We Have Mobs—What Shall We Do About It?

Did you ever get mixed up in a great mob bent on lynching a fellow-creature? Well, don't do it!

It is one of the most horrific experiences one can undergo, with very rare exceptions. In my long career as a newspaper man it has fallen to me to be tangled up in four such congeries of crazy, cruel, uncontrollable human beings temporarily turned savages.

In one case two white men were strangled to death from the same limb of a tree. In another a negro was hanged from the crossties of a railroad bridge. In the third instance a negro was strung up to a lamppost in the public square of a southern state capital. And in the fourth case a negro was hanged to a telegraph pole and riddled with bullets from a hundred pistols.

All these mob lynchings were in southern states. In one of these cases the mobbers masked or hooded, and no attempt was made to disguise any of the participants. In all of the instances officers of the law protested the proceedings strongly, but were effectually prevented from interfering with the mob's operations. In each case the victim was confessedly guilty of the crime charged, but he was in legal custody and would surely have been convicted and legally executed. The lynchings were absolutely uncalled for.

* * *

I would sooner meet the Devil in full flaming regalia on any highway than to meet and oppose one of our common city or countryside mobs. The Devil is a fellow of uncommon sense. He is willing to argue a case with you. He did that several times even with Christ. And when you resolutely command him to "Get thee hence!" he gits.

But with a raging-hearted mob it is a different case altogether.

It is often said that a mob has no mind; that it is mass madness and wholly impelled by a common primitive impulse that puts aching rage beyond the reach of reason and all our civilized and Christian inhibitions.

But that diagnosis does not accord with my experiences with mobs. Each one of them had a master mind at the head of it and the mass behind the master had caught his spirit and come to "one mind and one heart" for the business at hand.

On the occurrence in the community of some unusual, unprovoked, or peculiarly brutal crime the people become excited and naturally enraged against the perpetrator. If he is at large they organize a man-hunt to capture him and bring him to justice. If he has been quickly taken and jailed they discuss the evidences of his guilt, the enormity of his offense, and the probabilities of his being adequately punished.

* * *

In those sidewalk or roadside discussions the mob genders. An indignant, impetuous man suggests that the only right thing to do is to "take the damned scoundrel out and hang him!" He voices the universal instinct of self and home defense. He becomes at once the prime minister of that law which is axiomatic in barbarian tribes as in civilized government—"Salus populi suprema lex est!"—the welfare of the people is the supreme law!

In the case at hand, the law has been outraged, the safety of person and domicile violated, the security of the community imperiled, and the course of common justice is too slow and uncertain to assure penalty upon the criminal and protection to society.

Such is the argument that does not need a convention to affirm it or eloquence to make it convincing. It makes an electric conquest of the psychology of the community and when the leader seizes that moment to say "Let's go!" hundreds echo the cry and thousands follow famishly to get the predestined victim. Then the mob is off. It is a thing of fury and frenzy. It is a thing of fire and flame. It is a thing of hate and horror. It is a thing of blood and brutality. It is a thing of cruelty and crime. It is a thing of shame and sin. It is a thing of hell and damnation. It is a thing of the Devil and all his imps. It is a thing of Satan and all his angels. It is a thing of Lucifer and all his fallen stars. It is a thing of Beelzebub and all his demons. It is a thing of Apollyon and all his locusts. It is a thing of Abaddon and all his scorpions. It is a thing of Moloch and all his fires. It is a thing of Baal and all his priests. It is a thing of Ashtaroth and all his harlots. It is a thing of Dagon and all his fishes. It is a thing of Chemosh and all his abominations. It is a thing of Mammon and all his gold. It is a thing of Belial and all his sons. It is a thing of Antichrist and all his followers. It is a thing of the Beast and all his marks. It is a thing of the False Prophet and all his miracles. It is a thing of the Dragon and all his wrath. It is a thing of the Whore of Babylon and all her abominations. It is a thing of the Great Harlot and all her fornications. It is a thing of the Mother of Harlots and all her daughters. It is a thing of the Mother of Abominations and all her children. It is a thing of the Mother of Witchcraft and all her sorceries. It is a thing of the Mother of Idolatry and all her images. It is a thing of the Mother of Blasphemy and all her names. It is a thing of the Mother of Pride and all her haughtiness. It is a thing of the Mother of Lies and all her falsehoods. It is a thing of the Mother of Deceit and all her cunning. It is a thing of the Mother of Murder and all her victims. It is a thing of the Mother of Hatred and all her enemies. It is a thing of the Mother of Envy and all her jealousies. It is a thing of the Mother of Strife and all her contentions. It is a thing of the Mother of Division and all her factions. It is a thing of the Mother of Heresy and all her errors. It is a thing of the Mother of Apostasy and all her backsliders. It is a thing of the Mother of Unbelief and all her doubters. It is a thing of the Mother of Atheism and all her deniers. It is a thing of the Mother of Agnosticism and all her skeptics. It is a thing of the Mother of Infidelity and all her scoffers. It is a thing of the Mother of Rationalism and all her reasoners. It is a thing of the Mother of Modernism and all her innovators. It is a thing of the Mother of Liberalism and all her broad-minded people. It is a thing of the Mother of Tolerance and all her compromisers. 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judged wretch and wreak upon him what it believes to be righteous vengeance.

They get him and promptly kill him. They hang him, perhaps shoot him full of slugs, perhaps burn him at the stake. What matter? A human tiger, an enemy of society, a murderer of men, women and children, has been destroyed. The mob feels justified and its members return to normalcy.

* * *

No lover of organized law and order will justify mob law. No Christian man or woman can defend it. It is the sworn duty of ministers of law and justice to denounce the mob spirit, to prevent mob reprisals, to catch and punish mob violators of the constitution and the laws of the land.

But each mob is its own Moloch. It laughs at written law and backs its agents out of the awful picture. I have leaned from a window above a raging mob and seen it defy and beat off half the police force of a large city, led by as intrepid a chief as ever served an American community. As another spectator by me remarked: "That is hell in action that they are vainly fighting down there!"

Brought down to brass tacks, the only preventive for mob lynchings is an educated, stern public sentiment against them—a sentiment that can impress upon the consciousness of the most callous man in the community that every mobber shall be hunted down like a wildcat and punished as surely as any other bloodsmeared criminal.

Until every community shall develop that public psychology, no Dyer federal anti-lynching law, no state statute against riots and mob murders, no sheriff and no mobilization of the military, will end the periodical orgies of Judge Lynch in this land of the free. "Necessity knows no law," and a mob always acts from the conviction that its work is an immediate necessity.

* * *

During the past 40 years, I believe it not extravagant to say, I have heard probably a thousand men excuse mob lynchings on the ground that the people had no confidence in the certainty and celerity of justice through the courts.

How can that sort of common feeling be dealt with? When judges can be generally charged with playing into the hands of the defense lawyers of criminals and opening to their use every possible loop-hole of the law, a situation obtains where the majority sentiment of the community will more surely sympathize with the mob than with the magistracy.

No law that congress or a state legislature can enact will stop a mob in any community that arises from the conviction that it must do a work of justice that it cannot depend upon its courts to do for the safety and satisfaction of the people.

For the last 36 years we have had more than one lynching per month in the state of Georgia.

The percentage of homicides in Atlanta alone is 42 per 100,000 of our population.

How many murderers, rapists, burglars with weapons and house-burners have been hanged, or imprisoned for life, for their crimes in the past decade?

Count them and then you can understand why we have a lynching now and then.—Sam W. Small in the Atlanta Constitution.

ance of a civilized attitude toward the application of the law. South Carolina is falling in line. The South is really awakening and is shouldering her obligations to society.

SUN
Durham N.C.
JUN 29 1927

LYNCHIN
't what it used to
be in the
handicap wh
lessness gave a state, North Carolina
cleaned house in that respect. The
advanced state of her people educa-
tionally, over their previous condi-
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Recognizing the
reputation for law-

Lynchings—1927
Discussions.

White Press, (Southern)

HERALD
Raiford Fla
JUN 3 1927

An Unpleasant Task

When one reads the story of the negro waiting in the chair at Raiford while the superintendent argued with the sheriff about who should throw the switch, the thought immediately arises, "Pretty tough on the negro." He was all set for electrocution and momentarily expected the current to pass through his body. After waiting ten minutes he was taken out of the chair and removed to his cell. Now, it is announced, he will die on Friday.

Rather inhuman treatment that, hardly worthy of a civilized era. It reminds one of the old French prisons in which rooms gradually were made smaller until the prisoner was crushed within. Yet we presume it could not be helped. The sheriff was under the impression that it was the duty of the superintendent to kill the man, and the superintendent knew it was the sheriff's job to turn on the switch.

Evidently here was a case where neither of two men thought the state was thoroughly justified in taking human life. Neither of them wanted the responsibility of killing this negro even though the state said it was all right. If not, either one of them could have done it. It was a matter of little consequence to the negro who started the current on is deadly way.

It's a serious matter, this taking of human life even at the instigation of the state. It's an unpleasant duty which the state asks its servants to perform. Someday, beyond all question of doubt, some other system will be devised. We do not say it would be practical now, but a few hundred years hence when people learn that it's the sureness of punishment, not the punishment, which retards crime, then we may expect state murders to cease, and life imprisonment to be sufficient.

WHEELING, W. VA.
News
JUN 20 1927

THE RISE OF VIOLENCE

Judging from news dispatches of the past several weeks, the tide of mob violence is rising again in various sections of the south. There have been several lynchings, a number of particularly violent though unsuccessful attempts at lynchings, and any number of floggings.

Until this recent outbreak, there was evidence that the south had gotten away from the hot mob judgment which frequently has marred the administration of justice in many parts of the United States, but particularly below the Mason and Dixon line.

No lasting good ever came of snap, mob action. It may strike terror for the moment, but its ultimate effect is contempt for and lack of confidence in law and order, which inevitably brings lawlessness. It is to be hoped these recent manifestations of ugly mob spirit are but isolated outbursts, and do not represent the general temper of any considerable section of the country.

Charity and Children
Thomasville N C
JUL 14 1927

Lynching Is On The Wane.

Pessimists may decry the evidences of moral progress all they please, but the fact remains that there are proofs as plain as daylight that the public conscience does grow more and more tender regarding what were once considered established evils. The crime of lynching, for one shining example, is plainly on the decline. True, it is not being wiped out as fast as it ought to be, or as fast as it could be, but it is nevertheless on the decline because public sentiment is more and more set against it. At Morganton recently when one of the most fiendish crimes that ever blackened the history of the State gave a reason, although not an excuse, for mob violence, the first thought of the steadier men of the community was that there must be no lynching. Even while just indignation was white-hot, the Governor was supported in calling out troops for the double purpose of assisting in running down the criminal and of protecting him against mob violence if he was caught. As it turned out, the beast died fighting, but even if he had been taken alive we are fully confident that the thoughtful, substantial element in Morganton would have found means of coping with the reckless fire-eaters, for it was evident that the better part of Morganton regarded the possibility of a mob murder with the utmost horror. It is not many years since North Carolina towns were far less sensitive to the danger and disgrace of mob violence. We have faith to believe that it will not be many more years until a lynching will be as unthinkable in North Carolina as it is today in Massachusetts.

Antique Law Enforcement System Causing Lynchings

Mob-Epidemic Not Post-War Psychology But Sheriff's Overburdened With Duties and Not Being Able to Succeed Himself, Says Professor.

BY DR. N.
Professor of Sociology of t

The present epidemic of lynchings, precipitated by the most brutal crimes, should make serious-minded people go further than simply to condemn mob law. It is time to ask, "Why" A careful consideration of county police systems in Mississippi and some other southern states reveals a system of law enforcement which by its very nature can never be made efficient in apprehending criminals.

Too long we have dismissed the growing problem of criminal law enforcement by the almost meaningless phrase, "post-war psychology." Although there has been an increasing interest manifested in crime during recent years, the matter has been in most cases simply dismissed as an after-war effect. Ten years have now elapsed since the close of the World War. The crime wave has been seriously augmented and complicated by mob law. The trouble must be something deeper than post-war psychology.

The first great problem of law enforcement is that of apprehending the criminal. Why is there a mob tendency Certainly such a tendency would not be on the increase if efficiency in law enforcement were likewise on the increase. Is it that the citizens of a community distrust the efficiency of their law enforcement machinery?

Enforcement Broken Down.

The great authorities are saying that there is something wrong with present methods of law enforcement. One needs only to quote the report of the American Bar Association, or Wickersham, former attorney general. Chief Justice Taft, than whom none are more cautious and conservative in statement, states that our criminal law enforcement has broken down. The distrust of constituted authority patently evident in exhibitions of mob law only serves to confirm the opinions of such authorities.

Few people have taken the trouble to ascertain what the trouble is but the problem is becoming increasingly monumental in importance. Assertions and opinions without the support of facts no longer avail anything. Though there is no single cause of crime, one cause is well brought out by the results of the study mentioned above. It was found that the very system employed for enforcing law, or more strictly for the apprehension of criminals, contravenes all sound policies of law enforcement.

The chief police officer of the county in Mississippi is the sheriff whose principal duty, and the one from which he obtains his salary, is that of tax collecting. For the reason that he collects the taxes, he cannot succeed himself in office. Mississippi has been extremely fortunate in the splendid type of men who have been elected to the office of sheriff in the great majority of counties, but such men have reached their greatest efficiency just at the close of their terms, at which time they are kicked out of office by the constitution and not allowed to succeed themselves. Obviously, no professionalization of police forces can exist under such a system.

The data and conclusions offered in this article are not submitted as criticisms of any individual, or of any profession, but they are tendered with an earnest idea for improvement. The fault to be found is with the system, not with the individuals—a system that takes an efficient man, who has been trained at the expense of the public, out of office each four years and places in his stead another to train and to kick out at the end of another four years. The duty of tax-collecting makes necessary the provision that the sheriff cannot succeed himself and blights all possibility of professionalization. That such duty is entirely extraneous to that of law-enforcement requires no proof.

Farmers Head List.

The preparation and experience in law enforcement that the sheriffs of Mississippi have had prior to their election may best be illistrated by a study of their vocations prior to the assumption of the duties of sheriff. It will be remembered that sheriffs in Mississippi are elected for four years and are ineligible to succeed themselves. The vocations of 60 present sheriffs prior to election were reported as follows:

Farmers	23
Deputy sheriffs	12
Merchants	6
School teachers	3
Circuit clerks	2
Traveling salesmen	2
Chancery clerks	1
Horse dealer	1
Druggist	1
Special police officer	1
Medical doctor	1
Barber	1
Superintendent ice plant	1
Marshall	1
Veterinarian	1
Tax assessor	1
Bookkeeper	1
Lawyer	1

Out of a total of 60 sheriffs only 14 have had any actual experience in law enforcement, and the degree and extent of that experience is unknown. Sixty sheriffs were drawn from 18 different professions. Possibly some of these professions may provide valuable experience for those to engage in the apprehension of criminals, but who would contend that all or even the great part of as many varied careers could supply adequate preparation for out-witting criminals who have developed their trade into a science?

Such a lack of professionalization is not a phenomenon peculiar to the present time. It is an evil that has always been attendant upon our present system as may be shown by a study of the previous vocations of sheriffs during the last five terms. The vocations prior to election of 260 sheriffs were reported as follows:

Farmers 140, Deputies 47, Clerks 35, school teachers 5, tax assessors 5, traveling salesmen 4, druggists 2, medical-doctors 2, insurance agents 1, mule dealer 1, real estate dealer 1, contractor 1, lawyer 1, newspaper editor 1, marshall 1, representative 1, cattle dealer 1, singing school teacher 1, cotton buyer 1, policeman 1, hotel clerk 1, professional politician 1, surveyor 1, justice of peace 1, merchant 1.

Such figures indicate that approximately 50 out of 260 sheriffs have had previous experience that would help to qualify them for law enforcement. Twenty-six trades and professions supply the professional training of 260 sheriffs. Such evidence needs little interpretation. The lack of professionalization is only too evident.

Few Serve Twice.

Only 35 men were reported as having served as sheriff for more than one term during the last 20 years. Only 47 times were deputies reported to have succeeded to the office of sheriff. On such occasions the new sheriff retained the old sheriff as his deputy less than 10 times.

The material presented in this article was obtained by graduate students who sent questionnaires pertaining to county police systems to all of the secretaries of states, 36 of whom applied, by sending questionnaires pertaining to the office of sheriff to all chancery clerks in Mississippi, 60 of whom replied, and by reference to the state laws relative to the sheriff and his assistants.

The true condition of affairs in Mississippi may best be made clear by comparison with the county police systems in other states of the Union. In requiring that the sheriff collect the taxes as well as apprehend offenders, Mississippi is in a small minority. In 36 states heard from, the sheriff collects the taxes in only four, and aids in their collection in only four others. Such was the report from the state secretaries. It should be a reasonably safe indication of actual status of affairs. Twenty-eight of the states were reported to allow the sheriff to succeed himself in office, the term of which varied from two to four years. Nearly all states were reported to employ special tax-collectors, usually called county treasurers.

No County Treasurer.

In Mississippi the constitutional office of county treasurer died because of want of duties. The taxes have always been collected in Mississippi by a special tax collector or by the sheriff—since 1846 by the sheriff. The county treasurer had charge of the keeping though not of the collection of the county funds. The depository law in 1910 deprived him of this function and left the office little excuse for being. Consequently, it was abolished in 1922.

The office of sheriff is traceable as far back as the reign of Alfred the Great, its origin being almost coeval with that of the English civilization. However, it was not even originated to cope with crime as the etymology of the word "sheriff" shows. It is derived from two Anglo-Saxon words, "scir" and "gerefa," the first meaning shire, and the second reeve or collector. In other words the sheriff was the reeve of the shire and collected the taxes in addition to preserving the peace for the king. The sheriff was appointed by the king and for a term of good behavior. The colonists brought the same structure of law enforcement to America, but made the office elective and in some states, as in Mississippi, made the sheriff ineligible to succeed himself, thereby destroying the factor tending most toward efficiency.

The duties and powers of the office have developed with the common law but are amenable to legislative control and are generally proscribed by statute. As a consequence there is still in the counties of a few American states a police system that had its birth hundreds of years ago in the primeval forests of ancient England—a system that was originated for the ministerial duty of tax collecting and that has been very little changed in centuries. There is the cause of the spread of crime waves. All progress in the treatment or punishment of criminals is wholly dependent upon their apprehension and detention. To presume that such an antiquated system can adequately combat the scientific depradations of modern criminals is unreasonable.

Too Many Duties.

The defects to be found in the present system, considering its historical development, legal basis, and unrelated duties are numerous. The sheriff burdened with the duties of court house, public property, serving executions; and catering to all the political cliques has little time at his disposal to ferret out law breakers. The ineligibility of the sheriff to succeed himself forbids all professionalization. Only scientific methods can combat the systematic efforts of trained criminals. Only trained officers know how to procure the evidence necessary for conviction even after the arrest of a criminal.

The fee system of compensation for sheriff is within itself a definite obstacle to the adequate enforcement of the law. By devoting his time to the purely magisterial duties of his office the sheriff may within definite limits increase his salary. By devoting time and energy to enforcing the law and running down criminals the sheriff only runs up his expense bill and depletes his salary. The natural human tendency would be to neglect the latter and to pay close attention to the former.

The duty of collecting taxes is wholly foreign to that of law enforcement. It is a proverb that no man can do two dissimilar things well at the same time. The ability to count money does not predicate a sharp-shooter's eye. The dual requirement made upon the sheriff is just a bit of archaic governmental machinery that has escaped change in the feverish scramble of modern life.

Defects could also be pointed out in the organization—co-operation between county, state and federal officers—in the methods of selection of the personnel, in the legal powers, and in the lack of efficiency of assistants, but space will not permit. At any rate it is clear that Mississippi is one of several states that are yet several hundred years behind time in the matter of rural police. The great majority of states have modified their police systems in such a way as to meet the needs of advancing civilization. Mississippi is now confronted with the same problem.

Changes Recommended.

In the light of the experience of other states the first step in remodeling the present system would be to remove from the office of sheriff the duty of tax collection, to allow the sheriff to succeed himself, to require stringent qualifications and training in law enforcement, to grant powers similar to those of city police, and to create an organized department of specialized assistants. Removal of the duty of tax collecting would allow the sherif to devote all of his time to law enforcement. Allowing the sheriff to succeed himself would tend toward professionalization. Requirements of preparation in law enforcement would improve the personnel. The creation of an efficient, trained corps of helpers would with less expenditure of time, effort and money accomplish the tasks now performed by the deputies and constables. A provision for definite and adequate compensation would improve personnel.

The duty of tax collecting could easily be transferred to the tax collector, who would, of course, be placed upon a strictly salary basis.

If not that, the old office of county treasurer could be resurrected and given some excuse for being. Either alternative would be much more advantageous than the present plan.

Changing times bring changing needs. Changes in custom—advances in civilization, bring a demand for new and more appropriate laws. As population grows dense, industry flourishes, modes of communication and transportation become swift and cheap, and men become absorbed in strife for financial gain, opportunities to commit crime increase manifold. The conserving of the peace becomes a matter of extreme difficulty, as evidenced by the recent lynchings in Mississippi. The leisurely methods of old England cannot be followed. To meet such situations the cities of America—few lynchings occur in cities—and many of the states (for their counties) have adopted police departments with trained executives upon a highly standardized basis. Mississippi might follow their example with profit by keeping the governmental machinery of the state adjusted to changing conditions.

JUDGE CLAYTON AND JUDGE THOMAS G. JONES ON MOBS

Elsewhere on this page we reproduce excerpts from a noteworthy article written by Judge Henry D. Clayton for the Birmingham News and published in that newspaper last Sunday. Judge Clayton in temperate but characteristically incisive language puts secret courts on trial and finds them guilty of nullifying elemental human rights and making a mockery of constitutional safeguards. Judge Clayton's analysis of the evil of mask rule is devastating, and will carry weight with all thoughtful Alabamians.

The following quotations from the distinguished jurist's article is typical of the whole:

> The good men who have joined such organizations ought to sever their relations.
>
> No citizen wants his right of person, or property, passed upon by any secret conclave. He demands a fair trial, in the daytime, by an impartial judge and a jury of his peers.
>
> This modern outlaw always acts through overpowering numbers. These marauders always bear deadly weapons; the victim is helpless. He must submit to a flogging, or a killing, according to the decree of the secret conspiracy against the inalienable right of trial by jury.
>
> Any observant man will agree that the mob, or clan, disease is largely attributable to unsound thinking; sometimes to the malevolence of individuals.
>
> The constitution of Alabama. . .declares the object of government is the protection of the citizen in the enjoyment of life, liberty and property. To such extent orderly government must go, and if it go further and assume "other functions, it is usurpation and oppression."

It is an interesting coincidence that on the same day that Judge Clayton's article appeared in The News, The Mobile Register should have discovered and remarked upon a commentary on the tragedy of mob rule delivered by Judge Thomas Goode Jones in 1904. Judge Jones became widely known when as Governor of Alabama in the early nineties he made his office the chief foe of the mob in Alabama. Later as judge of the same Federal court where Judge Clayton now presides, Judge Jones continued his war on mobs and all forms of injustice. In 1904, in charging a Federal grand jury, he declared, according to The Register:

> Every mob is a stab at the sovereignty of the people, and a malign denial to them, by force of arms, of the right to the freedom of orderly government. There is not a village in Alabama whose ablebodied men and boys would not fly to arms to repel a band of free-booters who organized in their midst to enforce a demand that the community should have nothing to do with enforcing its own laws. Yet this is the mob, and what it does. The fire bells would ring out the alarm, and the streets of any of our cities would swarm with armed and indignant people if they were told that a gang of intruders were coming to expel their chosen judges from the judgment seats and put irresponsible and vicious men, chosen by the marauders, in their places. Yet that is the mission of the mob. . . . . If men would only reflect what treason mob law is to their homes and institutions, mobs would be well night impossible.

But Judge Jones seemed to realize that mob-minded people are in the minority, for in the same statement he went on to say:

> The instincts of the great mass of the people are right. They abhor mob law. Yet the masses of society seem never to realize how pressing is the duty to come out in the open against mob principles, its abettors and defenders, until the mob actually comes to their doors. By silence and inaction, they allow a few men in every community to speak apparently for the whole community, and thus to create what the vicious take to be public sentiment, which will excuse, if it does not justify, their atrocities whenever they choose to commit them. The mass of men do not appreciate the necessity for the bold word spokenin season. The community too often expects the man who prints a newspaper to voice its opinion and scourge offenders, then giving him nothing more than unspoken mental approval, leaves him alone to bear the brunt of opposition of the vicious and the lawless. We are all too prone, in the face of prejudice, to refrain from speaking our own thoughts aloud.

"This declaration," comments The Register, "touches and fits the present situation in Alabama. An overwhelming majority of the people of this state are too genuinely American not to frown upon and condemn recent outrages committed by hooded mobs within our borders. They do not believe in any of these acts of lawless brutality. They would not join any of these mobs, nor would they have anything to do with an organization, secret or open, that would seek either to justify or extenuate any of these acts of criminal violence. But this bitter cup is passing in Alabama; the people are stirred to the sinister meaning of these wanton attacks upon organized governments, and everywhere in the state public officials, local, state and federal, are acting with an alertness that cannot fail to put this fire out before it runs to still more dangerous proportions. Alamaha is getting back to American fundamentals, back to the philosophy of the Constitution, and the men who have brought this recent odium upon the commonwealth finally will be driven to their proper social and political levels.

Public statements of the kind made by the late Judge Jones in his charge to a Federal grand jury and by Judge Clayton in his newspaper article, go to the heart of the problem under discussion. This is leadership.

Lynchings - 1927
Discussions.

White Press, (Southern.)

Talladega - Ala.
Home -

JUL 19 1927

ALABAMA HAD NO LYNCHINGS FIRST HALF OF THIS YEAR

"While reading of the Alabama floggings, the acts of outlaws, do not overlook the fact that the state had no lynchings during the first six months of the year,' says The Talladega Home.

That is a good suggestion. While all law-abiding citizens of the state have been made to hang their heads in shame by the recent series of masked mob outrages, it gives us some consolation to recall that none of the lawless bands has gone to the extreme and taken a human life.

This is no justification of the floggins, but Alabama might be pardoned for showing some pride in her record in regard to lynchings. The record shows up to better advantage when we consider that our sister state, Mississippi, contributed four of the nine lynchings reported in the first six months of 1927.—Anniston Star.

MURDERS BY MOBS.

Hattiesburg, Miss., Aug. 28.

To The Commercial Appeal:

Our laws are patterned after the laws of God and disobedience to the one is disobedience to the other. The degree of protection to the lives and liberties of the people depend upon their respect and obedience to the laws.

The devil has put the greatest temptation in our way and the weak have turned away from God and country, yielding to the overwhelming temptation to mob murder notwithstanding that the laws were sufficient to destroy the beasts as effectively as the mob and without destruction of those taking part. That made it unnecessary and willful murder.

And by yielding our resistance to sin has been so reduced that we surrender to many lesser temptations and now poor white folks are mobbing poor white folks for trivial offenses, real or imaginary. And no poor white person is safe from the terrors of the mob at night with Satan controlling.

This sin against God and country is progressive. At first it was confined to the negro brute, but in a short time it extended its poisonous jurisdiction to negroes charged with minor offenses and then quickly to all classes of poor whites. And curiously its victims are many more whites than blacks. Disobedience on the part of Adam increased to murder by Cain.

Some folks obey the laws from motives of love and respect. Others only from fear of the penalties, and these bring punishment upon themselves.

Justice Ethridge of our Mississippi supreme court lately gave well considered and timely warning that the killing of human beings by mob constitutes murder and every person connected with the mob equally guilty with those who do the actual killing. And it may be added that those who harbor them afterwards are guilty after the fact. And Judge Ethridge further called attention to the fact there is no time limit and prosecution may be commenced at any time, and also that public sentiment may change and demand punishment.

Our senators and representatives in Congress also warn us that by our lawlessness we make it harder for them to prevent the passage by the Congress of the Dyer anti-lynching law which passed one house of Congress and is favored by the dominant political party. This bill provides for impeachment of the sheriff and heavy damages by the county to the family of the victim of the mob.

Those who indulge or even advocate mob violence are under fearful responsibility and have most to answer for. Their evil influences march on even after they are dead and multiply and pile up against them at the judgment bar. The mob spirit spreads and poisons the minds of the youth and the weak minded at an enormous rate.

It is hoped that a campaign will be conducted by each law abiding citizen to show the weak the dangers and pitfalls ahead.

N. RATSON.

Commercial Appeal
9-3-27

JOURNAL
KANSAS, CITY, MO.
AUG 9 1927

LYNCHING NEAR IN THIEF CHASE

Arrival of Police Averts Drastic Action as Citizens Shoot Fleeing Negro.

A crowd of more than 100 persons last night joined in a chase after Everett King, Negro, 29 years old, who attempted to burglarize the home of H. L. Roth, 2234 Spruce avenue.

Weakened from buckshot wounds inflicted by Clyde Windsor, 2214 Spruce avenue, and George Roth, 2238 Spruce avenue, who led the chase, the Negro fell exhausted at Twentieth street and Lawn avenue.

Shots Attract Crowd.

A large crowd attracted by the shots and the cries soon congregated.

"Lynch him," they cried. "String him up."

Police arrived just in time to prevent violence being done King, they believe. They took him to the old city hospital where his wounds were treated, and then to the Flora avenue police station. There he signed a statement admitting the attempted burglary and stating he had planned others here but had not executed them.

Enters House Unseen.

Mr. Roth discovered the Negro in his home when he returned from work last night. King apparently had entered through the unlocked rear door.

Mrs. Roth was on the front porch and did not see him.

King was in a front room when Roth entered the kitchen. He ran past Mr. Roth and out the rear door. Roth cried for help and Windsor and George Roth seized their shotguns and started after King, firing as they ran.

Residents left their porches to join the chase as it progressed. According to police, King admitted he escaped with eight other prisoners from the jail in Tulsa, Ok., last month. He was there awaiting transportation to the Oklahoma penitentiary to serve a five-year sentence for burglary, he said.

VICKSBURG, MISS.
HERALD
AUG 21 1927

GENERAL LEE AND LYNCH LAW

It is not commonly known that General Robert E. Lee, while president of Washington and Lee university, twice prevented lynchings in Lexington, Va., the seat of the university. The stories are told in Riley's volume, "General Robert E. Lee After Appomattox," the one being a reminiscence by Prof. C. A. Graves of the university faculty, and the other by Judge D. Gardiner Tyler of Holdcroft, Va., an alumnus of the institution. In brief Prof. Graves' story is as follows:

"In the spring of 1866, while I was a student at Washington college, a report reached the campus that an attempt was being made to force the jail in order to lynch a horse thief, named Jonathan Hughes, who, in the troublesome times after the war had been plying his vocation in the neighborhood of Lexington. When I reached the courthouse yard, within which stood the jail where Hughes was confined, it was filled with a crowd of men who had ridden in from the country to take the law into their own hands. At the top of the jail steps, in front of the locked door, stood the old jailor, Thomas L. Perry, holding the jail keys high above his head and facing, with grim and resolute aspect, the would-be lynchers who surrounded him.

"I was not at first aware of the presence of General Lee. But there he was (having evidently preceded me,) moving quietly about among the crowd, addressing a few words to each group as he passed, begging them to let the law take its course. This scene continued for some time and is indelibly impressed on my memory. The end was there. Those stern Scotch-Irishmen whose tenacity of purpose is proverbial, abandoned their enterprise, remounted their horses and rode out of town. They could not do a deed of lawless violence in the presence of 'Marse Robert,' whose standard they had followed on many a battlefield. It may be of interest to record that Hughes was duly brought to trial for horse-stealing, and on April 20, 1866, was convicted and sentenced to the penitentiary for eighteen years."

Judge Tyler tells as follows of a similar incident which took place during his first year at Washington and Lee:

"A very popular young student, a son of Judge Brockenbrough, professor of law, got into a difficulty with a negro and was badly shot. His life was despaired of. As soon as the news of the assault reached the college, four hundred students, with a brother of the wounded boy at their head, searched for and captured the trembling wretch, and with a rope round his neck, marched through the streets of the town to the courthouse square, with intent to wreak their vengeance on the man.

"It was in vain that the college and town authorities sought to calm the frenzied mob and induce them to turn over the negro to the officers of the law. Just then General Lee appeared. Immediately the tumult was hushed, and the general, standing in the midst of the excited throng, simply said: 'Young gentlemen, let the law take its course.' The quiet words had the effect of a military order and the negro's life was saved."

To our knowledge not one of the many great men the south has boasted of in the past generation has ever upheld lynchings. This fact should make people who give away to unregulated reason resolve to think of what law and order means to lovers of liberty in this great republic of freedom. Lee, Davis, Jackson, Lamar, George Stone, men loved throughout the south for their greatness and their achievements are all on record as opposing mobs and lynchings.

No single individual is entitled to justice himself who refuses to insist that others have justice. In order to protect our own house from disorder we must be willing to protect our neighbor's house.

TIMES
Wichita Falls
AUG 5 1927

SHERIFFS AND LYNCHINGS.

There are seven candidates for sheriff of Forrest county, Mississippi, of which Hattiesburg is the county seat. Some of Hattiesburg's citizens, wearying of the bad name which their state is getting for its lynchings, are trying to see to it that Forrest county, at least, has no more of them. These citizens are submitting a questionnaire to each aspirant for the shrievalty, the first question being:

"If elected sheriff of Forrest county, will you defend all prisoners in your custody and preserve your jail from attack by a mob, at the risk of your own life, shooting to kill, if necessary, in order to perform fully your statutory oath?"

Other questions undertake to put the candidate unequivocally on record against the lynching business.

Perhaps some other communities might try that plan. Giving satisfactory answers to such questions won't put any more steel into the backbone of a yellow sheriff, but it will be in the nature of a notice to the disciples of Judge Lynch as to what they may expect. The public has noticed that when a sheriff makes up his mind there won't be a lynching, there usually isn't one. It's a good idea to put the sheriffs on record.

...ma, Ga., Courier-Herald
AUG 11 1927

THE ORIGIN OF LYNCH LAW

The use of a word or phrase often loses its original meaning through the years. The use of the term "lynch law" would see mto be a misnomer in one sense of the word if the following account of its origin is correct.

The phrase is now synonymous with "Mob law" but originally it referred to executing a sentence which duly constituted authorities had failed to carry out.

It seems that in the 15th century the then Mayor of Galway, Ireland, a Mr. James Lynch, and his son, had a house guest, a young Spaniard. The two young men were close friends but in a quarrel about a woman, the Irish lad stabbed and killed the guest.

The father had to act as judge of the trial which resulted in a finding of murder—and he pronounced sentence of death according to English law, although Irish custom would have been more lenient.

The boy's mother roused all her kindred against the decree and no one could be found to carry out the sentence. Then James Lynch himself took his son through the crowd up to the tower and hanged him.

Lynch then returned home, shut himself up, and never again set foot out of his own door.

HERALD
Rock Hill, S.C.
JUN 28 1927

THERE MUST NOT BE MOB RULE

Regardless of what might have been the outcome had the angry Burke County mobs the past week caught the negro who murdered Gladys Kincaid, lynch law was not allowed to run amuck in the county, and the world was given to understand by Governor McLean and county officials that the State stands on the side of law and order.

Had the hundreds who beat the bushes about Morganton found the right negro and established his identity without possibility of mistake, there is no punishment which they might have meted out to im that would not have been deserving. Nothing, under the Mosaic law, could compensate for the bestial murder of the young girl just entering into womanhood. But in mob rule there looms eternally the danger that in the heat of anger the wrong man will expiate another's crime. And it was this danger which Governor McLean sought speedily to stamp out when he rushed two companies of National Guard to Burke County and ordered a third held under arms at Lenoir.

Norht Carolina cannot afford now, marching forward in the full flush of progress, to permit a lynching in the State. Governor McLean realized his at the start and threw his every resource to the breach to prevent it. And now, as owering anger gives way to level-headed thinkg, the people of Burke County will realize, too at if the right man is caught beyond a shadow a doubt he will surely not escape the death air. And, unless all doubt is obviated, no life ould be taken.—Charlotte News.

OBSERVER
CHARLOTTE, N. C.
JUL 19 1927

MOB RULE IN ALABAMA.

While the press services are broadcasting over the country almost daily reports of the numerous floggings being perpetrated in Alabama by hooded bands and these reports are being published in newspapers throughout the land giving the State of Alabama a superabundance of the worst type of advertising, we are told by The Montgomery Advertiser that the weekly newspaper editors are not as one in denunciation of the floggings, but that while some denounce the attacks, others defend them and the majority are complacently silent.

The Advertiser presents a highly interesting symposium of the weekly editorial comment that fills three columns of its editorial page, and an even column of its own comment on the attitude of the weekly papers it declares that practically all of the daily papers of the State have expressed themselves, "most of them meeting the present situation in Alabama boldly and honestly." We quote the first several paragraphs of The Advertiser editorial:

"A few days ago The Advertiser commented on the curious silence of a majority of Alabama weekly newspapers on recent outbreaks of sheer barbarism in Alabama. We gave the names of those papers that had carried adequate editorial comment on these outbreaks. At the time the count showed less than a half dozen papers that had voiced indignation at the occurrences in question. All others were silent editorially and many carried no reports of the floggings in their news columns.

"The Advertiser realized that many of the editors who were silent last week would speak clearly and to the point when they should get around to the matter and it anticipated that they would express themselves this week.

"The editors of many Alabama weekly papers have spoken in their current issues. Most of those who discuss these barbarous outbreaks speak adequately and to the point, in accordance with the best traditions of the press. But unfortunately, some quibble and evade, others betray ill-concealed sympathy with the floggers. And a large section of the weekly press is still silent."

The symposium of the weekly editorial comment is very interesting. The Oneonta Democrat assails the midnight gangsters in a straightforward manner, but expresses resentment that the Birmingham papers are giving so much attention to what is going on in another county than their own. The Oneonta paper's editorial contains this significant paragraph:

"The youth, Jeff Calloway, lives in Etowah, was kidnaped in Blount and whipped in Jefferson. He was kidnaped by the members of the Klan. This fact is admitted by members of the party. The kidnaping occurred at Antioch Church, about five miles east of Oneonta. The Klan was there at the invitation of the pastor, who claims that there had been drinking around the church during Church services. Previous to this, parties had been arrested for violations of this kind and had been punished by the courts. These facts are admitted."

Speaking of the Blount County flogging case, The Opp Weekly News says: "No, sir-ree, we do not indorse it. And not only that one, but we didn't indorse the school teacher over in Georgia buckling that woman, Mrs. Bowers, down with her head between his knees while others of his ilk flogged her."

"What is holding up developments in the Blount County flogging case?" asks The Guntersville Advertiser. "It was reported in the daily papers early last week that members of the mob that took Jeff Calloway out and gave him a flogigng were known. . . . Yet no arrests have been made. If the floggers are known, why haven't they been arrested?

"Shall Alabama be governed by law or shall 'justice' be meted out by robed and hooded mobs under the cover of darkness?" the Guntersville paper asks. "Rule by robed and hooded mobs with its accompanying outrages under the cover of darkness only breeds anarchy and has no place in a civilized country."

Alabama citizens at present seem to be almost at the mercy of the robed and hooded gangs, but leading daily papers such as The Advertiser and numbers of the weekly papers are making a valiant fight to arouse public sentiment and to stir the officers of the law to vigorous action to put down mob rule. Unless a check is placed on the wave of activities of these anarchy breeders, and that before much longer, the Commonwealth will suffer irreparably. Pity it is if the people generally in that State will not realize the gravity of the deplorable situation.

Star
Anniston, Ala.
JUL 16 1927

Do Not Forget Alabama Had No Lynchings First Half of This Year

"While reading of the Alabama floggings, the acts of outlaws, do not overlook the fact that the state had no lynchings during the first six months of the year." says The Talladega Home.

That is a good suggestion. While all law-abiding citizens of the state have been made to hang their heads in shame by the recent series of masked mob outrages,it gives us some consolation to recall that none of the lawless bands has gone to the extreme and taken a human life.

This is no justification of the floggings, but Alabama might be pardoned for showing some pride in her record in regard to lynchings. The record shows up to better advantage when we consider that our sister state, Mississippi, contributed four of the nine lynchings reported in the first six months of 1927.

Lynchings - 1927
Discussions.

White Press, (Southern.)

TRIBUNE
NEW ORLEANS, LA.
JUN 16 1927

LYNCHING EPIDEMIC?

A WINSTON county mob takes two negroes from the sheriff and burns them. The two were "supposed to have killed a sawmill superintendent." This put Mississippi well in the lead for the year among the states tolerating this sort of barbarism.

Hotheads in Jackson are still active. The Passions aroused by one of the most beastly crimes in the state's history, still smoulder there. A mob chased troops and officers holding the criminal—a negro—a good 200 miles. He is now in Kilby prison at Montgomery. Montgomery reported Monday night that prison officials there had been advised by the Jackson chief of police that a mob was en route to Montgomery to storm the prison.

This discouraging increase in mobbery is regretted by the better class of Mississippians and by Mississippi's friends outside. It hurts the state's material progress as well as its repute. Mississippi only a eyar ago was a leader in the move to check lynching. That makes this year's lynching record all the more regrettable. But we do not believe the movement is dead in the state. It is past time, however, for the state officials to take definite and drastic steps to check this increase in mobbery.

South Carolina has proved the efficacy of convicting mobbers. A pledge by every candidate for governor to sponsor and support a bill that would remove every officer who permitted a mob to take a prisoner from him might also help. But such a pledge would require a courage not common to politicians.

POST
Salisbury, N. C.
JUN 30 1927

NO MORE LYNCHINGS, SAYS RICHARDS

Governor John G. Richards, of South Carolina, is quoted as saying that his administration inherited a lynching probe from the previous one and there will be no further ones. This as the Raleigh News and Observer declares, is a confident statement, a bit too confident, perhaps, but not beyond accomplishment. The Raleigh paper cites the case in our own state where Governor Morrison prevented a lynching and there have been no others. North Carolina people now have more confidence in the law, more willingness to obey and more disposition to abide by the decrees of the courts.

It may be interesting to follow the News and Observer further in this discussion. It says:

"There may be a number of reasons for the virtual end of lynching in this state. The record will show there has been no appreciable decrease in the crimes of the sort that usually result in mob law. We must go elsewhere for the reasons. Better jails and fine roads over which officers may speed prisoners in jeopardy out of the reach of mobs may have had a part in record. Probably the most effective thing has been the determination on the part of the State authorities, headed by the Governor, that there shall be no lynching.

"This was one of the very strongest features of Governor Morrison's administration. He was determined, so far as it was in his power, to prevent any lynchings while he was Governor. Occasionally, he insisted upon sending troops to a point of possible eruption, even against the wishes of the local authorities. He insisted that local officers communicate at once with the Governor when a crime of an enfuritating nature was committed, and, where possible, rush the prisoner to the State Prison, or, at least, to a safe jail in another county.

"He stepped on the toes of some of the local officers. There were the sheriffs who felt that the Governor was reflecting on their

WHEN LAWLESSNESS IS UPHELD FROM THE PULPIT

In The Advertiser of Tuesday was a dispatch from Sylacauga reporting the resignation of the Rev. Dr. A. H. Reid, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Sylacauga, who has accepted the pastorate of the Norwood Baptist Church at Birmingham, to which place the reverend gentleman will go September 1. The dispatch contained also a report of Dr. Reid's sermon Sunday night, and it is that sermon which concerns us here and which should be perused by all people who are interested in the controversy about law and order in Alabama and to all who are interested in the relation of priestcraft to modern civilization.

We quote the following from the dispatch:

> Sunday night Dr. Reid took his text from the prophet Jeremiah on the use of soap and lye, saying that soap was for cleaning the outside while lye was needed to make one clean within. In this sermon he criticised The Birmingham News and The Montgomery Advertiser and associate papers for their positions on the recent state floggings, showing that they needed lye for cleansing themselves inside. He said he was opposed to floggings, but that there were instances that the law could not reach and these cases could be better handled in that way. He took occasion to mention several instances where good had come out of such events, one of which was the recent burning of a dance hall near Sylacauga.

Unless Dr. Reid was misunderstood by the reporter, he stood in his pulpit and conditionally excused men for crimes. He condoned and excused flogging by safely masked gangs. He even condoned and excused the crime of arson, according to this friendly report of his remarks. Men, women and children, professed followers of the meek and lowly Nazarene, sat under the spell of their priestly firebrand, and carried to their homes the memory of a sermon in which they had been enjoined not to reproach floggers and house-burners if these floggers and house-burners could show that their crimes were done in the name of law and order, or perchance in the name of religion. They carried away the impression that their pastor is not above inciting mobs and of assailing those who denounce mobs. Those who relish such hogwash must have felt exhilarated; others must have been disgusted. For ourselves, such pulpit outgivings as these—and they are by no means uncommon in Alabama—leave us dismayed and depressed. Men of this type have power in the land. Their point of view is acceptable to a number of people larger than we, in our State pride, care to admit, or like to think about.

When ministers of the Gospel not only do not hesitate, but seemingly prefer, to appeal to the baser natures of men rather than their higher natures, one who loves his State and professes a delight in civilization, can only hang his head and grieve for his country.

But the mood passes after a dark, bitter moment, and one's depression lifts as he remembers that the choicer spirits of the priesthood seem equally humiliated by the antics of these shallow bigots of the cloth who prefer to set their followers on fire with hatred to elating them with love and good will. And this one who loves his State is lifted up on his toes when he reads that the more gallant spirits of the pulpit are lashing lawless gangs with tongues of fire and calling their followers to rally around the banner of decency, humaneness, civilization—and Christianity!

RECORD
COLUMBIA, S. C.
JUN 4 1927

"How Come?"

Crucifixion, not merely legal murder. Such a conclusion ntaurally comes to mind as we read the dispatches from Raiford, Florida, where Jim Williams, a negro, convicted of murdering his wife, was strapped in the electric chair, and after having told his friends goodbye, two deputy sheriffs, who had been delegated by the sheriff to electrocute the prisoner, suddenly discovered that they, under the law, could not legally perform that service!

The prisoner was then unstrapped and told to arise and walk from the death house,

but sympathetically informed at the same time that he must wait a day or two until the sheriff himself could make ready and come forward, when the prisoner could be killed according to law! Harrying a helpless victim is the unpardonable sin of civilization.

Heretofore it has not been so evident in legal channels, indeed in humane circles but confined in most instances to such as where jaegers, frequently seen along our seacoasts harry terns or gulls to make them disgorge fish just caught. Which is equal to saying these two Florida deputy sheriffs stand out as enforcers of cruelty unequaled in history. We believe few will deny such classification.

In other words, when this prisoner went through the agony of preparing for death and took his seat in the death chair, where he was strapped and ready for the turning on of the electric spark which would, as he knew, end his earthly life, technically he died, or suffered the pangs of death over and over again. The remarkable part of it is that these officers would go so far and then balk.

Jeffersonian
Jeffersontown Ky
JUN 2 1927

THE MOB SPIRIT BREAKS IN SOUTH

The mob spirit broke loose in Tampa, Florida recently and made a desperate attempt to again besmirch the good name of the south by overthrowing law and order by committing murder in a lynching scene. Thanks to faithful and fearless officers of the law, they were thwarted in their murderous attempt.

Later, however, the forces of law and order at Louisville, Miss. being caught off their guard possibly, surrendered their negro prisoner to a mob, whose dastardly attempt was consummated to the shame of Mississippi and her sister states of the south. The negro's clothing was soaked with gasoline, following which he was made a human torch by being burned to the stake.

The action of the mob, in both cases, was uncalled for. Indications are that the law was being properly applied and would have administered justice in due time. Hoodlumism has been given its just due from the press all over the south since the two mobs played their roles in the two instances named above. Nevertheless the good have to suffer with the bad so long as lynching is allowed to continue to any degree.

ENTERPRISE
Thomasville Ga
JUN 3 1927

UPHOLDING THE LAW

Tampa was the scene of an unusual occurrence this week when a mob composed of two thousand people attempted to break into a jail for the purpose of lynching a man, who had confessed to the crime of murder. His victims were four in number and the murder was one of the most brutal known in that state.

The guilty person had been apprehended and was in prison to await trial for his crime. There was every reason to believe that a speedy and a fair trial would be had and that the crime would be fastened on the man guilty of committing it. Yet the mob formed for the express purpose of taking the prisoner away from the law and administering death by torture without the semblance of a trial.

It may be possible that this man is guilty. It is not ascertained in a way that the law of our land says it should be. The mob had no more moral or legal right to slay that prisoner than the prisoner did to ruthlessly knock four people in the head with a large iron hammer. Yet the mob formed and began battering away at the jail.

In the effort to get the prisoner the officers of the law opposed the mob. There were warning sufficient to impress any howling, mad mob that they meant business. They did not halt and shots were fired. Four were killed, four more seriously wounded, and thirty others less seriously injured. The mob came back reformed and another effort was made but this likewise proved futile for the guard had meanwhile been reinforced and it was prepared for trouble. There was no question of its determination.

Florida may be proud of the fact that the law will take its course, provided no further trouble occurs. A thousand men were sworn in as deputies and they aided the military forces not only in protecting the jail but in enforcing order throughout the city. It was a wholly insane mass of human beings, goaded by the cruelty of the crime to a desire for personal vengeance. This is madness, such as many times strikes our people, all people. It should be repressed and Florida's example is one that should be commended even though the result was most serious and subject to sincere regret.

NEWS
Hamlet, N.C.
JUL 7 1927

IS IT MUCH BETTER THAN A LYNCHING?

That was a horrible and sordid spectacle at Morganton Sunday. The negro Broadus Miller, alleged rapist and murderer, had been killed by a member of the armed posse which had hunted him for 12 days. Being cornered high up in the mountains he fired at his pursuers; the fire was returned and the negro dropped dead with six bullets in his body. He had been outlawed; reward money for his body dead or alive had been offered; no possible blame can attach to the man who shot him down. He exhibited the character of a beast in life; as a beast he died. That should have been all. But it wasn't.

The body was loaded on a car and hauled to town. It was placed on display in the courthouse yard and thousands of folks fought and cursed for a chance to see it. It was dragged around by the feet, the head bumping the pavement; it lay for hours in the broiling sun on a summer midday. Two companies of militia had been ordered to the scene during the man hunt to protect the negro from the angry mob; but they seemed powerless to protect the people of Burke County from their own morbid passion. A lynching would have cast a blot on the state's record and would have been a reproach to the section permitting it; but in many respects the influence of a lynching would not have been so evil, it would have been forgotten more quickly, than this display of primitive savagery over a dead negro.

Robesonian
Lumberton N C
JUN 16 1927

ESCAPED LIGHTLY.

Innocent of anything more than a particularly shocking and sickeningly brutal misdemeanor and victims of a mild court lynching to save them from a fatal lynching at the hands of a mob is what the Raleigh Times sees in the evidence, verdict and sentence in the Laurinburg case where two young men were found guilty of assault on a female with intent to commit a statutory offense. Peremptorily The Times says the evidence shows that the young men were not guilty as charged and that the compromise verdict was merely a concession to popular demand for punishment.

Which is a rather surprising view. The verdict was a compromise, of course, for the young men were guilty of a capital crime or they were guilty of nothing so serious as the verdict fastens upon them, but the weight of the evidence seems to show that they were lucky to escape the verdict that would have carried with it the death penalty. There was of course an element of baffling doubt which no doubt swayed the jury in their verdict, but there does not seem much room for doubt that the young men escaped lightly, and it is to be hoped that the other cases against them will be prosecuted vigorously.

VICKSBURG, MISS.
HERALD
JUL 15 1921

THE MOB MIND

Perhaps you have read on the headlines of a paper something like the following: Two negroes burned at the stake. Over a thousand peaceful citizens Transformed into a mob, parade the street, cheat the law, and satisfy a craving.

This sort of description tells us that the mob mind is loose in the community. It concentrates and goes into action. Now just where does the mob mind come from? What is its make-up? How does it behave? The words in bold type above tell the story. The mob is the peaceful group transformed. The higher impulses of men are changed into the baser. Once uncovered, the mob mind wants to show itself. It invites attention, parades the streets. The mob increases in size. Under the influence of the many, individual men lose the sense of responsibility and become victims of suggestion. It is a form of hypnotism. The reasoning man falls to sleep, the impulsive man awakens. The many become one, and the range of activities narrows down to just those things that the leaders suggest, or rather those which custom dictates.

But what about the craving? Some have supposed that deep down in the human soul there is a passion for justice. This is one of our popular notions; it is only a half-truth. There is a case on record where a member of a jury voted for the release of an accused negro. A few hours later the same man helped to lynch the same negro. This seems like case of reason transformed into impulse.

There does seem to be an impulse in man to take pleasure in seeing other men struggle, fight, and even suffer. Ancient Rome had her Gladiatorial contests. Men were forced to fight to the end; and the spectators were amused. During the Middle Ages, what was known as "Bear Baiting" was a common public entertainment. Starved dogs were turned loose upon a bear and tore the living flesh from the bones. The crowds Hurrahed.

Lynchings-1927
Discussions.

White Press. (Southern.)

2406

DEMOCRAT
Harrenton Va
DEC 3 1927

A JOB FOR GOVERNOR BYRD.

Early Wednesday morning a mob of 300 men, heavily armed, broke into the Fletcher County jail, in the State of Kentucky, and, after subduing the jailer, who happened in this instance to be a woman, dragged from his cell Leonard Woods, a Negro accused of the murder of Hershel Deaton, riddled him with bullets and burned the body. It is said the killing of Deaton was brutal, cold-blooded murder, committed without the semblance of an excuse. That, however, does not alter the nature of the offense of which the mob was guilty, against the peace and dignity of the State of Kentucky. Lynching can never be condoned. It strikes at the very roots of law and order. It laughs at duly-constituted courts and snaps its fingers in the face of justice. It is a crime against the individua victim and against the community. It is little short, if it is short at all, of murder.

The particular phase of this particular lynching which interests us is the fact that the Kentucky authorities are of the opinion that a majority of the lynchers came into Kentucky across the Virginia line. Deaton was a Virginian, and the belief is that friends and neighbors living near his home decided to take the law into their own hands, with the result that the Kentucky jail was stormed and Woods put to death. The lynching was effected close to the dividing line of Virginia and Kentucky. At the moment this editorial is written it has not been determined definitely in which State the scene of the crime—for crime it was—was laid. That matter now is under investigation.

Governor Byrd took immediate cognizance of the situation. In a statement issued from his office he denounced the lynching as a "dastardly, cold-blooded crime," "without the slightest justification." "To set aside the law and lynch by mob violence is a cowardly act," he continued, "and one which strikes a blow at the very foundation of orderly government. It is full time for Virginia to make an example of those committing the crime of lynching and to punish the guilty as other murderers are punished.

"If the lynching occurred on Virginia territory, every resource of the State will be extended to the local authorities to apprehend and punish the perpetrators of this outrage. If the act took place on the Kentucky side, and Virginians participated, every aid will be extended to the Kentucky authorities.

"This crime should arouse the people of Virginia to the necessity of drastic punishment, so that an example will be made of those who commit murder in mobs as well as those who commit murder as individuals."

That is spoken as a real Governor speaks. Every word of the statement will receive the hearty indorsement of law-abiding citizens of this State. Lynching is loathed by all men who respect either the laws of God or the laws of civilized mankind. Virginia owes it to Kentucky to invoke the sternest measure in seeing to it that these mobbers are brought to the bar of justice, and, under the leadership of Governor Byrd, Virginia will do just that. Lawlessness is an enemy that must be stamped out at any cost.—Times-Dispatch, Dec. 2.

TIMES
Florence Ala
DEC 1X 1927

Swift Justice In North Carolina

A negro has been tried and sentenced to death in Goldsboro, North Carolina within sixty hours after his revolting crime was committed, but the triumph of legal processes was not accomplished without the display of unusual bravery and determination on the part of those entrusted with maintenance of the law's majesty. Kinsmen of the murdered woman invaded the very courtroom in their effort to take the law into their own hands, and while their frenzy is understandable, an alert sheriff and presiding judge quickly took charge of the situation, the sheriff firing his pistol into the ceiling and his associates quickly spirted the prisoner into an adjoining room until national guardsmen could be summoned to rescue the trial. The judge presided during the remainder of the session with a pistol lying before him on the bench.

The evidence was presented, the jury quickly rendered a verdict of guilty and the court immediately sentenced the prisoner to death. Thus legal processes were upheld and the anals of the state were not marred by another instance of private citizens taking the law into their own hands. It is noteworthy that the presiding judge at this trial was Henry A. Grady who in February of this year tendered his resignation as grand dragon of the Ku Klux Klan in North Caroiina and as a member of the organization. He gave as his reason the invasion of the state by the imperial wizard and other national officers with certain statutory proposals which Judge Grady held would be harmful to the preservatiion of law and order in North Carolina and which infringed upon the constitutional rights of citizens.

Judge Grady showed by that act that he not only had definite convictions regarding the preservation of constitutional rights but that he had the courage to assert them. In the episode which occurred in his court on Sunday, the session having been held on that day in order to expedite justice, he likewise demonstrated his conviction that legal processes must be maintained at all cost if the nation's institutions are to be secure.

It is courage of this kind in emergencies that will do more than any other one thing to put an end to lawless conduct. The promptings of personal vengence not infrequently causes individuals not to want to wait for the processes of the law, and yet, failure to do so means reversion to anarchy when no one's rights would be secure. The North Carolina incident is another triumph for law which should be heartening not only to the people of North Carolina but to adherents of law and order everywhere, for the example of how it can be done when the emergency arises will steel other law officers to more rigid perfermances of their duties when crises arise.

MORGANTOWN, W. VA.
Ind Dominion
DEC 2 1927

Governor Byrd Acts Promptly—

Governor Harry F. Byrd of Virginia is to be congratulated on the vigorous statement he issued condemning the recent lynching of a negro near the Virginia-Kentucky border. "It is full time for Virginia to make an example of those committing the crime of lynching and to punish the guilty as other murderers are punished," he said. If the governor will follow his words with action, he is well able to provide an example that will be of extreme value in stopping the wholly indefensible practice of mob rule. Almost without exception, those who participate in a lynching bee are known throughout the community in which the crime is committed, and only fearless prosecution is needed to bring them to the bar of justice.

CHARLESTON
SOUTH CAROLINA
DEC 16 1927

One of our contemporaries opposes special terms of court for the trial of persons charged with heinous crimes and describes executions following them as "legalized lynchings." Yet, between a "lynching" and a "legalized lynching" the difference is as wide as the poles.

A verdict carrying the death penalty is far more likely to be just if it be brought in by a court, though hastily convened, than by a mob, and without these courts the mobs would persuade themselves that they had better excuse and the lynchings would be more numerous.

If we can abolish mob law altogether, and the special court is a long stride in that direction, the time will soon come when the people will be satisfied wtih courts proceeding deliberately.

Meantime, if we could reform the dilatoriness of our court procedure, we could well forget, for the present, the occasional incidents of their over-haste. Six months should be the extreme limit of time required for the final settlement of any criminal case, and in the great majority of them six weeks should be enough. Sometimes six years are required, and in South Carolina, if an accused person has a little money and a little influence, the end always is postponed at least a year.

Therein is the explanation of much of the mob law and most of the murder.

Martial law, any kind of law, is far better than no law.

ITEM
NEW ORLEANS, LA.
DEC 15 1927

A Good Officer

JACK BLEAKMORE, a Pulaski county (Ark.) deputy sheriff, is the latest to demonstrate the truth that mobs are cowardly, that nine times in 10 a determined officer, willing to shoot in defense of his prisoner and able to convince the mob of his willingness, can prevent lynchings. Bleakmore had a negro prisoner. A mob of 200 gathered before he could get his prisoner to jail. He locked the prisoner in a room, pocketed the key, drew his pistol, and announced that he would kill the first man who came any closer. Voice and gun were steady. Each mob member waited for somebody else to be that first man. There was no lynching.

We congratulate Mr. Bleakmore and Pulaski county. He may receive recognition from organizations whose business it is to note such actions. But he should receive recognition from the people of his county. They've got a good deputy. He would make them a good sheriff.

PROGRESS
Charlottesville Va
DEC 10 1927

LYNCHING PROBABLY FORESTALLED

The course of the State of North Carolina in hurrying a negro accused of the brutal murder of a 15-year-old white girl in Wayne county to the State penitentiary at Raleigh as a safeguard against an attempted lynching is but another evidence of the firm determination of Governor Angus W. McLean to protect prisoners accused of crime at any cost and to assure them a legal trial. The crime was a brutal one, and while it seems entirely probable that the man accused is guilty of the heinous charge, it is well worth while to become assured of this fact. Innocent men have doubtless been sacrificed more than once to the blind fury and vengefulness of the mob. It is possible that the man accused may be innocent; hence the paramount importance of an ascertainment of guilt by and through the orderly methods and procedure of the courts.

The lynching crime has been virtually extirpated in this State as a result of the determined purpose of the governors from Charles T. O'Ferrall, in the early '90's until this day. During the administration of Governors Tyler, Montague, Swanson, Mann and all the others until this day the State executives have indicated a firm purpose to maintain the laws and protect accused persons. It is now rarely necessary to invoke the aid of the military establishment in order to deter and prevent mob law violence and murder. In North Carolina members of would-be lynching mobs have been convicted and given stiff penitentiary terms, and so was a man at Williamston who was involved in a seizure and mutilation crime.

Old Virginia set the pace for the South in the repression of mob murder, and it still holds its proud leadership in assuring respect for the sovereignty of the State and the enforcement of the laws. Its conservatism is manifested in the right direction and ought to be rigidly adhered to.

EVERY EVENING
WILMINGTON, DEL.
DEC 5 1927

VIRGINIA WARNS LYNCHERS.

Governor Harry F. Byrd of Virginia sees no reason why members of a lynching mob should not be as sternly dealt with and severely punished as individual murderers. In expressing this opinion he has served notice on this class of outlaws that they must expect the full penalty provided by law if they perpetrate such crimes on Virginia soil. What aroused the governor to action was a lynching which occurred a few days ago in Kentucky near the Virginia border.

Governor Byrd's judgment on this subject is sound. There is never sufficient provocation, no matter how great, to justify a lynching. The states have laws fitting all crimes, and, as we are living under a government by law, the legally constituted authorities can be depended upon to see that justice is done. It is always best—even in matters of retribution where there may be particularly aggravating circumstances—to proceed in orderly fashion. Any other course disorganizes the community involved and threatens the security of the law-abiding element, as well as all others.

Editor Griffin Indorses Lynching.

The following editorial comment is from the pen of E. H. Griffin, editor of the Bainbridge *Post-Searchlight*. Presumably, it is a mature expression—the point of view to which Mr. Griffin, after reflection has arrived. It is here discussed not because Mr. Griffin, as an individual, writes and thinks as he does but because so long as such thinking and writing appear in Georgia journalism, Georgia journalism is not all that it might be. The words that we have italicized are those which we believe deserve particular attention:

> Negro lynched for rape in Tennessee. Nothing remarkable about that as *it is always the end of all such crimes in north or south* but we will read with disgust certain papers that will lay this lynching to the Ku Klux Klan. It will bring an editorial from two Georgia papers about our intolerance in this country. They will discuss the horror of mob law and the iniquities of the south and forget to say one word in condemnation of the brute or one word of sympathy for the little ten year old victim. That is modern hi-brow journalism. We are ndeed thankful that we are a country cracker editor out in the woods with no better sense than to know the truth and face it in things of this kind. *Just so long as the crime of rape is committed then just that long will lynchings occur.* We all know it but the most hypocritical pretend to deplore it. As for us *we don't care a darn about the lynching* but we do hate the crime of rape more than we do any lynching and we are not mealy mouthed about it. We don't expect any yankee medal on Journalism and don't want any. *Law or no law, justice or no justice, tolerance or no tolerance when a brute rapes a woman the hemp rope is just as certain as sin.* The man that does that is *not a man or a citizen with any of the man's or citizen's rights.* The law says that a MAN must be tried by a jury of his peers. But a brute is another thing and has *no rights that any one is bound to respect.* Making quick work of a rapist is not any disrespect for law and order, hi-brow about it as much as you please.

Editor Griffin is mistaken when he says that a lynching always follows the crime of rape. Within the last eight weeks two Negroes in Georgia have been arrested, tried, sentenced and electrocuted for having committed the crime of rape.

The above-mentioned facts also disprove Editor Griffin's similar assertion that "just as long as the crime of rape is committed then just as long will lynchings occur". Other Southern states, as well as Georgia, have in recent years, greatly reduced the number of lynchings within their jurisdictions. Georgia's record the year is spotless. What is needed to keep it spotless and to prevent future crimes of lynching in all the Southern states is to get rid of the notion that murdering an accused person is the only way to achieve justice.

Editor Griffin says that the person who commits rape is "not a man or citizen with any of the man's or citizen's rights". In that assertion Editor Griffin comes out flatfootedly against the Constitution. That document says that no person shall be deprived of life or liberty without due process of law. It does not say that a black man or a white man accused of rape is therefore not a person. It does not presume to judge an accused before he is tried. It does not, as does Editor Griffin, by quibbling sophistry in defining "man", lay down the principle that a certain class of offenders have no rights that others are bound to respect.

Editor Griffin is correct in his belief that the crime of rape, like other crimes, should be punished. But from there on, Editor Griffin

THE TENNESSEE LYNCHING.

Tennessee has added a stain to that state's escutcheon in the lynching of a negro youth from the second-story window of the courthouse. It matters not that the boy had been accused of rape, a heinous crime. The uncontrolled mob spirit of Tennessee that could not trust its orderly court processes, could not wait to hear testimony as to the suspect's guilt, is the more appalling, and is the more to be condemned because it chose the courthouse as the scene of its display.

The negro is said to have confessed the crime, but often such confessions are mere rumors set afloat to inflame the mob. News stories declare that in this particular instance he confessed a second time to the mob. He may have done so, but it is more likely that he said what the mob compelled him to say. Having a confession, however, why not have waited for the orderly processes of the courts? Why defile the courthouse itself with a mob hanging?

Recent years have seen the race relations in the south greatly improved. The white man was taking a greater interest in the welfare of the blacks. Lynching statistics were showing a great improvement in the annual reports of Tuskegee Institute. Is all this work to be undone by an unreasoning mob? It is to be hoped not, and that Gov. Horton, delivering an Armistice Day speech a few miles away, hastened to the scene and set the orderly processes of the law into motion to bring the mob leaders before a responsible

ST. LOUIS MO. STAR
NOVEMBER 15, 1927

Lynchings-1927
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2388

CITIZEN
Dalton-Ga
JUN 23 1927

Why We Have Lyunchings and Mob Law.

It is trite to say that those people who compose mobs and lynching parties are cowards. It is known of all people, and those who are officials know it quite as well as the rest of us. No brave man will join a party to whip and lash a woman and her fifteen-year-old boy. Only cringing cowards will engage in any such behavior. The same is true of the mob of a thousand or more which seeks the black brute, already in the hands of the constituted authorities, for the purpose of burning him at the stake, as was done in Mississippi last week. We will go further and say those guilty of such conduct are at heart as mean, as criminal, and more blood-thirsty, if that be possible, than the victim of their blood lust.

Then why are mobs permitted to appease their appetite for blood? Here again cowardice, or sympathy, enters. The officers who are in charge of the accused, in nine cases out of ten, can protect the prisoner. But they must be in sympathy with the law and not the mob. They must be ready to shoot, not up in the air, but straight into the mob. One shot of this kind will send the mob hurling and hurdling in the opposite direction. It does it every time, or at least it has done it when and where it has been tried in this state. A fifteen-year-old boy, near Columbus, about a year ago, routed a mob who was bent on beating up a member of his family. It is true he killed one of the mob, but that is as it should be. He shot straight into it, and he got results.

A dispatch from Frederick, Md., printed in the Baltimore Sun, telling of the arrest of a negro for murder, says:

> Quick work by the sheriff and his deputy and a warning from State's Attorney William M. Sturm that any attempt to molest the prisoner would result in murder indictments alone prevented a lynching.

Another dispatch from Louisville, Miss., furnished by the Associated Press, telling of the burning to death of two negroes for murder, says:

> W. S. Parmenter, deputy sheriff, and two other officers were taking the negroes to Jackson for safe keeping. They were overtaken near Noxapater by a mob which blocked the highway and demanded the surrender of the prisoners. The officers at first refused to surrender them and fired several shots in the air in an effort to frighten the mob, whose number was estimated at 1,000, but the mob was insistent.

"The moral of these two dispatches," says the New York World, is plain. "The Maryland officers meant business; the Mississippi officers did not. And that, it seems reasonable to infer, is why Mississippi has lynchings and Maryland does not."

When officers learn to respect their oaths and protect their prisoners lynchings will cease, and not before. When they learn to shoot into the mobs and not into the air they will throw the fear into the hearts of the criminals that will deter them from their cowardly attempts to take the law into their own hands, and which they do all too often in the southern states.

Our officers shoot with deadly effect at fleeing automobiles suspected of having liquor in them. The occupants, if they posssss liquor are, at most, guilty of only misdemeanors. Mob members are at heart potential murderers, and after they have finished with their cowardly work, they are actual murderers of the wors type.

JOURNAL
Louisville-Miss
JUN 17 1927

LET'S GET AT THE ROOT OF THE EVIL

We carry a news story in another column of our paper this week that is very regrettable. This story notes the unfortunate killing of a popular citizen and two negroes. It also relates a horrible feature in which vengeance overran the better judgment of the human being, just as it has often done before. This was the overriding of the laws of the land by a citizenship that normally, are lawabiding, by burning alive two negroes. Every thinking person must admit that this is not only horrible, but is contrary to our civilization, threatening to our only mode of retaining our civilization, and the peace and happiness of our homes, for without the laws of the land properly respected, no man is safe in his home, or elsewhere. A more horrible feature of this affair, is the fact that boys in their teens—yes, little children were tutored to a degree in this, the most uncivilized act of the human race—burning human beings alive.

It is unnecessary, however, to dwell upon that feature of the case at this time. This has been repeated and acknowledged time, and time again, throughout our land. Neither need we dwell upon the feature as to whether or not mistakes were made in handling this affair by the authorities on last Sunday night. It is done, and the wise thing to do now is to go about seeking the remedy during peace time to avoid a recurrence of it, for what has been, will be again under like circumstances. There is no use losing our heads, or to grieve over what could or should have been done, or waste time in condemning a thing that our whole people are in a measure, responsible for. There are two sides to most questions. There are two big sides to mob law. In the first place we are unfortunately a two colored inhabited country—one an inferior, and one a superior race, made so by our forefathers in an unguarded hour by bringing this inferior race into our country, which is no fault of ours. Due to the ignorance, and in many cases, a beastly disposition in the inferior race, and the impatient, foolishly reckless disposition found too often in the superior race, harmony fails to prevail at times. Some times the trouble is due to the one, and sometimes it is due to the other, or to both. And when this beastly spirit gets loose in the inferior, it naturally causes the impatient and nervous instincts of the otherwise normally minded to become loosened and unbalanced. And when people are outraged they become enraged, and often times reckless judgment, or no judgment reigns supreme, and deeds are committed that would not be committed in real sane moments, hence the affair here last Sunday night.

There are many reasons why the two negroes were mobbed. Chief among them, of course, is vengeance. Not least is the lameness of our courts. Too little attention is paid to our courts by that element of people who are supposed to be, and are looked upon, as our most law-abiding, and leading people. Too long has it been the custom to "let George do it." Too often has it been that the citizen who is fit and wise enough to act as a juror to pass upon the most serious and important cases in our courts, has refused to do so by some ruse or another that was not legitimate, and his place filled by an unfit from incompetency, or otherwise, and the result was abortion of justice, and the criminal turned loose to go and sin against his fellowman. Too often has the shyster lawyer, or the spineless court been responsible for undue delay, and the lack of justice being meted out and the criminal escaped. These and other reasons, are the cause of loss of respect for the courts, and the primary production of mob law. To accuse one section of our country more harshly than another for lawlessness of this character, is foolish and known that when such outbreaks occur in our boasted law-abiding section, they have in every section of our land, and by any people under similar conditions. This has been sufficently demonstrated. And if there is a difference, it is in favor of our southern cause does not altogether rest upon the while this mob was doing its work here Sunday night, there were ed upon, and expected to protect the rights going about their business out regard to their guilt or innocence. molested by the mob. We

So, we say there are two sides to this mob law, and there is a cause, and that mobbist. It rests upon those who are look- ere colored people Acknowledge your duty and get

about it in a sane and sensible manner—do your duty, if it is obnoxious to you.

No thing is more sickening, or disgusting, than to read the rot put out by our supposed big advisors and leaders, the big daily newspapers, the greater part of them looking to the commercial end of their business to the neglect of the real duties of such institutions.

Our position is not in any sense one condoning in any way mob law, for no one regrets the affair here Sunday night more than we. We recognize its harm to humanity; we recognize its great detriment to society and industry, for never could our mob, or the threatened one at our State capitol at this time, come in a more unfortunate time for the state than now. But we want to get at the remedy to keep down a repetition of them, if possible. Stop the silly wind-work of hired daily paper editors who encourage the mob instead of the officers, and get at the root of the trouble.

RECORD
COLUMBIA, S. C.
JUL 14 1927

Mobs And Mobs.

All the mobs are not hooded in this country of ours. Some of them sit and fan themselves in the jury box. A specific illustration of this may be cited from a recent trial in Louisiana.

We refer to the case lately decided wherein a young woman, driving with a young man, was said to have jumped from the moving vehicle and lost her life in the leap.

The youth was convicted of first degree murder, which reminds The Montgomery *Advertiser* that the verdict is "quite the most amazing that we know anything about."

"Until now," says our Alabama contemporary, "we had thought first degree murder was a murder done deliberately, premeditatively and in cold blood." So had we, but let the Montgomery *Advertiser* sum up:

> If Louisiana hangs this boy, it will be guilty of lynching a citizen in a moment of idignation for an attempted flirtation that ended, quite by accident, tragically to a helpless girl. The youth deserves punishment, but certainly not on the theory that he deliberately caused the death of his companion.

In the passion of local anger juries are frequently swept from their feet even as legislators are. As a sequence to the sowing of the wind in those places the people reap the whirlwind, as this lad has in Louisiana. No unbiased mind in the world, it would seem, would hold the young man for capital punishment in this instance.

TRIBUNE
Concord - N. C.
JUN 30 1927

WOULD STOP MOBS.

Governor Richards says he is not going to allow mob action and lynchings in South Carolina. The statement is a rather optimistic one and many may think the Governor is covering too much territory, but it must be admitted that he is starting in the right direction.

The Governor points out that he "inherited" one lynching from the McLeod administration and he is determined to prevent others while he is Chief Executive. He seems to have adopted the North Carolina plan of action and if he sticks to it no doubt his boast will be carried out.

The Palmetto Executive is calling out troops just as soon as some serious situation arises. He is taking no chances, in other words. He thinks the ounce of prevention will eliminate the need of a pound of cure and we believe he is right.

There was action by a mob in North Carolina soon after Governor Morrison assumed his duties in Raleigh and that has been the last one in the State. Sometimes, to be sure, he called out troops when his advisers thought they were not necessary, but he played safe. He took no chances, and as a result county officers became more alert, more determined and more effective. Many of them, no doubt, accepted the presence of troops as an indication that the Governor did not think they could handle the situation, and these may not have liked it, but just the same there were no lynchings and that is what the Governor was after.

Governor McLean has followed the same tactics. He has not waited until the horse was stolen before sending troops to lock the stable door. He has called out troops on several occasions when it appeared that serious trouble might arise, and no doubt this action has saved the State from other black marks on the pages of its history.

Governor Richards can stop lynchings in South Carolina all right if he will just do it. The troops are at his command and they have a powerful influence for good. The cold steel of a bayonet has a mighty influence on mobs. In fact steel, both hot and cold, is about the only thing that will bring reasoning to a mob.

When the people learn through experience that they will be given no opportunity to take the law into their own hands they lose the desire to do so. It would be difficult, we believe, to organize a mob in North Carolina. That is a mob which would really take a life. Determined action by two Governors has brought about this state of affairs.

Fair and Timely Questions

TWELVE prominent citizens of Hattiesburg, Miss., joined last week in an open letter to the seven candidates for sheriff of their county. They ask the shrievalty aspirants sundry questions whose pertinence and timeliness are emphasized by the statement that "there have been seven mob murders in Mississippi within four months." One of the queries reads thus: "If elected sheriff of Forrest county will you defend all prisoners in your custody, and preserve your jail from attack by a mob, at the risk of your own life, shooting [illegible] necessary in order to perform fully your statutory duty?" Another asks each candidate to declare whether or not he will in event of his election appoint deputies "who will go to the same lengths in defending an accused from mob attack as in procuring his arrest." A third asks each candidate to say whether or not, in case of his election, he will issue a written warning immediately upon taking office, "that any attack upon the majesty of the law will be met with all the force necessary."

The signers of the letter believe that they and their fellow citizens are entitled to a public answer to these questions. They seek in effect to make the pledge of fearless and efficient performance of sworn public duty a paramount issue in the Forrest county shrievalty campaign. Evidently they believe, as do countless others, that many mob outrages can be prevented by vigilance and resolute courage on the part of the officers having custody of the prisoners sought by the mob, or in charge of the jails attacked. With the requisite courage must go of course the will and purpose to resist mob lawlessness.

So the Forrest county candidates for sheriff are asked to declare themselves on this issue, in advance of the election.

The purpose of this rather novel quiz seems to us entirely laudable. Its results will be eagerly awaited, we dare say, throughout Mississippi and the neighboring states. The term "results" here includes not only the replies of the candidates, but the verdict of the Forrest county voters as shaped by those replies—and finally the performance of the elected sheriff and his deputies in the unhappy event of a mob outbreak. In a sense these interrogatories subject Forrest county's citizenship as well as its candidates for sheriff to a test of their respect for law and desire for its orderly enforcement. Apparently the Hattiesburg signers have undertaken to mobilize public opinion against mob violence. That is a consummation devoutly to be wished in every mob-plagued state.

REGISTER
Shepherdstown, W. Va.
JUL 7 1927

AS TO LYNCHERS.

The Macon, Georgia, Telegraph, in commenting on certain episodes of lynch law, excitedly remarks:

"Cold steel and hot lead will do more to cure lynching than anything that could happen."

In our opinion the best cure for lynching is reform in court procedure. Let the people be assured that murderers and rapists and similar offenders will be promptly tried, that shyster lawyers will not be permitted to obstruct and delay action and interfere with orderly processes of justice, and the people will be very apt to have that respect for law which has been abrogated by the exasperating delays and objectionable practices of a certain class of attorneys who will do anything if the fee is sufficiently attractive. Look at Loeb and Leopold, the bloody Chicago murderers—absolutely guilty, with no extenuating circumstances, yet escaped the gallows and are now seeking to evade the prison sentence that was the insufficient punishment for their inhuman crime. If such fiends cannot be properly punished by law, who shall forbid Judge Lynch taking charge?

Lynchings-1927
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White Press (Southern)

2389

ITEM
Progress-Herald
JUL 8- 1927

I SAW A LYNCHING

Under the caption, "I saw a Lynching", Editor J. O. Emmerich, in the McComb City Enterprise, of last week, writes what we think is the best editorial ever written on this subject. Mr. Emmerich was an eye witness to this lynching and in this article he forcibly relates the incident as it impressed him. We reproduce this editorial below because we believe that at this time Mississippi needs to think along these lines.

I saw a lynching once; saw a "burley" headed young negro of about twenty years of age strangled, multilated, hanged. Saw the mob slip a noose about his neck, saw a hundred or more men take slack out of a mighty grass rope, heard mad men curse and swear as they pounded the choking negro in the face with their fists as the crowd heaved on.

I saw a man slice off a black right ear; saw the fingers of a white man slip through the negros wool as he vainly sought to grip the short hair to add to the agony and pain; heard a gun explode as its handle was jammed into a skull.

"I saw that black body as it was dragged through the streets of a little city with a hundred men pulling on the rope as in a tug-o-war with hundreds others begging for a hold; saw the rope tied to the axle of a Ford sedan; heard the motor chuckle as it responded to the mad man's foot, saw car start on a fateful parade.

"I saw that senseless brute as he dragged behind that Ford; saw a dozen men or more as they stood upon his lacerated body and rode; viewed that same body a few moments later as it dangled from the limb of a small tree beside the creek; saw the clothing jerked from the lifeless body; heard a hundred shots, more or less, as they peppered in vengence, the body of a negro, guilty, no doubt, who was strangled into unconsciousness and perhaps, just a few seconds after the brutal orgy of the mob had commenced.

"That mob entertained themselves. In their madness they believed they were giving justice to a black man who had committed an unmentionable crime. They cut and cuffed, kicked and cursed, laccerated, multilated and hanged a negro while the death angel stood aside mocking a crowd of senseless men who were seeking to pain a senseless body that had been cold in death before the celebration hardly has started. I marveled that men could so quickly revert to primitive instincts. I pictured a wild, excited bull as he ripped threads the red cloth snatched from the hands of toreador.

"The black had cimmitted a crime, he had been returned to the court room awaiting him was no other verdict than capital punishment. The court assured a speedy trial, a speedy verdict, a speedy execution for it was known that the negro was guilty. But the court had just begun when there arose threats of dynamiting, of wholesale murder, of most anything. It was then that I saw the wild crowd enter and proceed with their awful dissipation.

"I knew the man who drove that car on that fateful journey with a dead negro tied to its differential. That man, today, is dead. I have many times wondered what his opinion of a lynching would be if he could come back to Mississippi and address a mob.

"I knew another man, a substantial citizen who stood with a Winchester rifle, standing off at the edge of the crowd as a marksman and a sharp shooter, ready to snuff out the life of any deputy who might be bold enough to interfere. That man too today, is dead. I have mediated on his passing, tried to recall his likeness in my mind. He was a capable thinker in normal times. I wonder what his thought would be if he were called back in some mysterious way to deliver a lecture to school children on law enforcement, law endorsement, and the obligation of the individual citizen to the constitution of his state and nation.

"No men need speculate as to the opinion of these dead men were they again alive. Every sane person must admit that we have our choice between order and disorder; constitution or chaos; democracy and bolshevism.

"Men and women, there may have been a time when the mob law was justifiable. There may have been a time when our government could not cope with the trying situation. But that time is no more. Mob law must be ostracized; is must be eradicated. The respect of the flag must be restored; the name of our country must be vindicated. The day of the mob must go an era of order and intelligent procedured must be ushered in.

"There is but one way to re-establish intelligent handling of matters of justice and that is law obedience. Obedience to the law must come first, impulsive law evasion must cease. Officers must enforce the law; citizens must see to it that the law is enforced.

"After all the question can be simplified. Is mob law good or bad for our people? Is it a means of advancing justice? Does it actually result in any good? Can mob law require anything that legal procedure cannot?

"The truth of the matter is the mob law is injurious to the best interests of all our people, even to the members of the mob themselves and to the members of the families, the sacredness of which may have been intruded upon. And for the reasons it should be abolished.

"I have seen a mob in action. That's why I am so bitterly opposed to mob law."

RECORD
Newton-Miss
JUN 16 1927

SHALL THE LAW RULE?

WE have always contended that all good citizens will obey the law, and in all cases will defend and uphold the Constitution of the United States and of our state. We have heard it argued by some that while they do not favor mob violence, they believe it does good in some instances. We do not believe that in any case where officers have the custoday of a prisoner, any set of men should take the law in their own hands and put to death any person, it matters not how guilty or heinous the crime that has been committed. "For it is written, vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord. Whosover, therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation."

Recently a negro committed an outrageous crime in Hinds county, taking the life of two white ladies and it was only by the strategy of the officers of that they thwarted the mob that was in pursuit of the brute that commited the crime. The prisoner was even carried into another state and we still see in the papers that some are desirous of mobbing him and thus rape the law and become murderers themselves. On last Sunday night two negroes shot to death a native Newton County white man, Clarence Nichols, of Louisville, and became murederers in the sight of the law and no doubt would have met capital punishment at an early day by the officers of law and paid the penalty of their lives for the dastardly deed committed. But hundreds of men not withstanding the fact that the officers had the offenders in their custody saw fit to avenge themselves by taking the negroes and burning them to death. An editorial in the Commercial Appeal of June 14th. under the head of "Shall the law rule or shal the mob rule?" is pertinent to the question and we pass it on to our readers as follows:

At Louisville, Miss., yesterday morning a mob estimated to number 1,000 took two negro prisoners from officers, bound them to a telephone pole, poured several cans of gasoline over them, and them applied the torch.

To further show its contempt for the law, before burning the men at the stake the mob paraded its victims through the streets of the town.

The negroes were accused of having killed a white man the night before. The Sunday night killing may have been a cold blooded murderer, and the two negroes burned to death may have been the murederers. We are raising no question as to their guilt. That is not the question.

In Mississippi murder is a capital offense. There is a method of legal procedure prescribed, and the state law harmonizes with the Federal Constitution, which guarantees to every person accused of crime an impartial trial by jury, and the right of counsel to defend him.

Eevery man in that mob of 1,000 outraged the law of his own state and spit upon the constitution of the United States. This was done in the face of the official "effort" of the sheriff of Winston County and his two deputies, who according to the story, "fired several shots into the air, in an effort to frighten off the crowd."

That article of the Constitution which gives to every accused man the right of a jury trial is a part of the same Constitution that embodies the prohibition amendment, for the enforcement of which the majority of southerners clamor long and loud.

Probably many of those composing that Winston County mob of 1,000 are rampant in their defense of prohibition and would not vote for any man who advocated the repeal of the Eighteenth Amendment. If so, a little introspection will force an admission of their own inconsistency.

Is the man who would mutilate the Constitution of the United States by illegally trying to nullify the prohibition amendment any less patriotic than the man who would multilate and weaken the Constitution by overiding and trampling upon the amendment that guarantees an accused person his right to a hearing in a court of justice? Let each member of that Winton County mob answer the question for himself

Lawlessness is gnawing at the vitals of the nation like a cancer. And mob rule is just as damnable a form of lawnessess as is bootlegging, safe-blowing and murder.

Next fall Mississippi is to name a chief executive. who will serve for four years. The gubernatorial campaign is now under way. There are four or five candidates now in the field.

We venture the assertion that not one of these candidates, nor any others who may later announce, but will advocate the strict enforcement of the prohibition law as provided by the Volstead Act for upholding the Eighteenth Amendment, and will inveigh mightily against bootleggers and moonshiners.

It would be unfair to any aspirant for gubernatorial honors in Mississippi to intimate that he is in sympathy with mob law. We do not believe that any one of them is. But, for the purpore of putting the candidates and the great state of Mississippi on record, it would be interesting for the candidates to give expression to their wives on the Winston County mob in particular and lynchings in general.

If we are not mistaken, the governor of Mississippi has the power to remove a sheriff for cause, including failure to properly protect a prisoner in his keeping. Whether or not the sheriff of Winston took the proper precautions to safeguard the lives of the two negroes, we do not know.

But the people of Mississippi have the right to ask of each of the gubernatorial candidates what, in event of his election, he would do if in his opinion a sheriff failed in this respect.

These matters pertaining to law enforcement, not only in Mississippi, but in every other state as well. Either the law or the mob is going to rule, and we must stand for one or the other. zone.

There is no middle ground, no twilight

We cannot be true to our professions of citizenship if we put a finger on one law and say that we favor it and will observe it, and put a finger on ather law and say that we oppose it and will ignore it.

It is folly for any man or set of men to make war upon bootleggers and bandits in the name of the law, and then individually or collectively give aid or comfort to those who have deliberately set about smashing some other legal inhibition.

We have got to stand for the law in its entirety, not for just a part of it. If we don't, the whole law will eventually go down before the onslaughts of its enemies, and the mob will be supreme.

We are face to face with the issue, and the people must choose whom they will serve.

DEMOCRAT
Jurica, Miss
JUL 7 1927

from p. 3
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STIRRED BY MOB VIOLENCE IN STATE

Stirred by recent outbreaks of mob violence in this State, a group of Mississippi's most prominent women, meeting in Jackson last week, drew up and gave to the press a vigorous condemnation of lynching, declaring that "as Southern women we hold that no circumstances can ever justify mob action and that in no instance is it an exhibition of chilvaric consideration for the honor of womanhood". The Governor was commended for his efforts to suppress mob violence, sheriffs were urged to meet with force any attempts upon their prisoners, and grand juries and courts were called upon for earnest efforts to bring recent lynchers to justice. The statement in full was as follows:

"We place ourselves on record as unalterably opposed to mob murder. The barbaric practice of lynching arouses unchristian passions, violates the sovereignty of our state, brings Mississippi into disrepute in the eyes of the world, and brutalizes all those who come within its evil influence.

"As southern women we hold that no circumstances can ever justify mob action and that in no instance is it an exhibition of chilvaric consideration for the honor of womanhood.

"We commend our governor for calling out troops to suppress mob activities, urge all sheriffs to meet attempts on their jails with force, and call upon grand juries and of ficers of the law to prosecute vigorously the lynchers in Mississippi who have unlawfully slaughtered six men within the past two months."

The signers were Mrs. Theodore D. Bratton, wife of the Bishop of Mississippi; Miss Susie V. Powell, President of the State Federation of Womens Clubs; Mrs. Myrtle G. Hicks, Vice-President of the Mississippi Synodical; Mrs. C. H. Alexander, active worker in various organizations; [illegible] McLaurin, President of the Mississippi Synodical; Mrs. W. W. Epperson, President of the Jackson Federation of Missionary Societies; Mrs. Edgar Goodwill, Social Service Superintendent of the Mississippi Conference; Mrs. David M. Key, wife of President Key of Millsaps College; Miss Paralee McLester, Secretary Jackson Y. W. C. A.; Mrs. Ivy G. Hill, Mrs. John Bell Hood, Mrs. J. T. Calhoun, Miss Mamie J. Chandler, and Mrs. C. A. McCurdy.

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White Press, (Southern)

2390

Sun
Colquitt - Ga.
JUL 8 1927

Negro raped and killed a girl in N. C. Mob after negro and will kill him if they catch him. Mob law is bad, rape is worse. Just as long as the crime of rape is aboard the mob will exist and there is no use in folks being silly or hypocritical about it. The most rapid anti-south yankee becomes a mobber just one minute the rapist puts hands on his women folks. We have seen it here and elsewhere. When a man is killed for rape by an infuriated citizenry we deplore the fact that rape was committed but we throw no hypocritical fits over what happens to him. If that be treason and anti-law make the most of it. Georgia editors that abjectly apologize to any section for killing a rapist are liars of the first water and they know it and their utterances are made solely from a commercial stand point. Saw where one deplored the thing because IT feared that the north would not lend any money down here. If we have to submit to that to get money we will wear ragged pants as long as we live. The same papes encouraged the rapist in their servile attitude about the killing of one. Day follows night, killing follows rape and that is all there is to it, and why make idiots of ourselves and hypocrites over it. We don't fool anybody, not even ourselves.

NEWS
CHATTANOOGA, TENN.
JUN 3 1927

Florida's Good Work

Law-abiding citizens everywhere will, we believe, felicitate the state of Florida and the city of Tampa for standing against a riotous lynching party, even at the cost of several lives. That a crime had been committed which greatly incensed the community does not lessen the value of the service rendered in defending the jail. Lynchings must be foiled at any hazard. They are nothing but murder, mob murder of the most aggravating character, and cannot be tolerated in any modern civilized community.

Notwithstanding sporadic cases, in which this brutal offense is yet occasionally committeed, the better sentiment of the south has set its face steadfastly against it. That is made apparent from the determined attitude of Florida, whose record in the past has not been such a good one. The savage practice can be scotched if officials will do their duty unflinchingly. That not only includes protecting those in their custody but pursuing and punishing lynchers implacably. Executing or imprisoning a few of them will deter others.

There has been an improvement of the lynching record in the south within the past few years. But it is not satisfactory yet. Everybody has a share in the work of making it better. Let's suppress the barbarous custom and unhold the law. That we must do.

TIMES-PICAYUNE
NEW ORLEANS, LA.
AUG 2 1927

Houston (Tex.) Post-Dispatch:

A negro was legally hanged in Mississippi Friday, following his conviction for the crime that often provokes mob violence. That execution, carried out by the authorities of the law, constituted one reason why mob law should be abandoned in Mississippi. It showed that lynching is not necessary in order that criminals may be punished properly. It showed that, given a chance to function, the law will function effectively in Mississippi, especially when negroes accused of criminal assault are involved. There was no doubt about the guilt of the man hanged. He confessed his guilt freely and went so far as to ask forgiveness for his crime from relatives of his victims. Where mobs attempt to mete out justice often innocent parties are seized and sometimes done to death. In Kansas a few weeks ago an insane mob almost wrecked a town in an attempt to take from the jail two men who were accused of a crime involving a woman. Happily, the officers withstood the attacks of the mob and saved their prisoners. Later it was proved positively that the prisoners sought were in no wise guilty and other parties have been indicted for the crime. How much safer it is to permit the law to take its course in these cases. Mississippi has just been given an object lesson in orderly, proper and effective law enforcement which should go far in discouraging mob outbreaks in the future.

VICKSBURG, MISS.
HERALD
JUN 23 1927

QUICK JUSTICE TRIUMPHS

The quick conviction of Walter Burley, the negro fiend who murdered two women of the Rees family near Jackson about three weeks ago, is gratifying to every good citizen in Mississippi. He will be hung in July.

The officials at Jackson are to be congratulated for the manner in which the whole matter was handled. Their promptness in spiriting the negro out of the state probably saved the Capital City from the black mark of a lynching.

Standing out above all that has been done since this terrible crime was committed, however, is the plea of the Rees family to their friends to let the law take its course. With two of their love ones brutally slain by Burley, the Christian character of the others of the family shone bright as gold and they came to the defense of the law by requesting that nothing be done to break it down or that would prove an economic injury to the community in which they live. It was a noble thing to do.

The negro will pay with his life for his awful crime. The good name of the Capital City has been saved. The family of the Rees' and the people of Jackson showed fine control under most trying circumstances. They have demonstrated character in citizenship which will make the community a more desirable place in which to live.

LITTLE ROCK, ARK.
Gazette
JUL 12 1927

DEALING WITH MOBS.

The people of Ouachita county have a right to be proud of their sheriff, Arthur Ellis, whose prompt and determined action at Camden ended the possibilities of a race riot. As a result of an alleged attack on a young white woman by a negro volunteer posses, composed of armed men in a feverish state of excitement and acting independently of the constituted peace authorities, were ranging the neighborhood. The members of one of them fired on and wounded a negro whom they encountered on the highway. Sheriff Ellis immediately arrested 14 alleged members of the posse, charging them with rioting, disturbing the peace and carrying concealed weapons. After this action of the sheriff had broken up one mob he found himself confronted with a second mob, composed largely of young men. "The "sheriff gave them 10 minutes in "which to disperse. In 10 minutes "there was no mob."

Those words, quoted from the dispatch to the Gazette reporting the occurrence, tell the whole story with eloquent terseness. The mob knew their man, and had no eagerness to attempt defiance of the authority which was reposed in him by the law, and which he did not hesitate to enforce to the full.

LOUISVILLE, KY.
Courier
JUN 15 1927

MOB MADNESS

The name of Louisville has been besmirched by the fiendish act of a Mississippi mob. Louisville, Miss., must answer for a crime that in barbarity and cruelty rivals anything in the Dark Ages.

In that town of less than 2,000 population a mob of 1,000 gathered early Monday morning, forced the Sheriff to deliver over two Negroes suspected of murder, and after tying them to a telephone pole and saturating their bodies with gasoline, made living torches of the terrified human beings.

The atrocious and almost unbelievable act deserves the most condign punishment, though it is doubtful if anything will be done about it. Responsibility for mob violence usually centers about a few ringleaders, whom the mass follows as sheep, and the identity of the followers as well as the leaders is always vague and indefinite. But here seems to be an almost general expression of lawlessness and almost general consent to an act of barbarity that would do credit to Ivan the Terrible.

Certainly Louisville, Miss., will have difficulty in wiping out this blot on its name. It will be the object of condemnation everywhere.

VICKSBURG, MISS.
HERALD
JUN 19 1927

ORGANIZED GOVERNMENT MENACED

Mob action in Mississippi has reached a point where organized government is menaced. Seven actual mob murders in the state within two months while several other attempts at lynching were foiled by narrow margins, may well cause every thoughtful citizen to realize the deplorable condition into which our public conscience has drifted.

Not only in Mississippi but in other states mob violence has flared up and spread like a prairie fire. Negroes and whites alike are being mobbed for alleged crimes, and even a mother and her little boy and other women have been dragged from their homes and whipped to within the shadow of death because "gossip" connected them with some alleged violation of the social code.

What are we coming to? Who is to blame? Are we to sit supinely by and let our standard of liberty, our right to safety of life and the pursuit of happiness be torn from our grasp by the cruel and relentless spirit of the mob?

Is it not time for the lovers of our social scheme in Mississippi to rise in their might and declare that the brute instinct of man shall not triumph again over law and order in this state?

The mob spirit must not gain sway in Mississippi. Already it has spread too fast. All too frequent is heard utterances of disrespect for law. Once out of hand only anarchy can reign

where respect for our established social order is destroyed.

Mobbers can start something that can not be stopped without the overwhelming display of force and perhaps bloodshed. Where the spirit of brute force dominates no home, no single citizen is safe from attack and murder.

Mob violence can not thrive when the public conscience is aroused to the necessity of protecting the law. The taking of any individual's life without due process of law is murder in the sight of God and under the law of organized government.

Mob action has not checked crime. On the other hand, it fosters crime by its own course of breeding disrespect for law and order.

It should be remembered always that mobs have nothing to substitute for the law they break down but brute force. They can not restore order nor stop the anarchy that results from their acts. In a mob ruled community the basis for sane thought is destroyed for the mob has "neither the head to think, nor the heart to feel."

Mississippi can not grow and prosper, her people can not be happy unless it is made a safe state to live in, where the rights and property of every individual is zealously guarded and the law upheld.

TIMES-DISPATCH
RICHMOND, VA.
JUL 26 1927

To Discuss Wytheville Lynching Case Tod

Whether any additional steps should be taken to bring to justice members of the mob that lynched Raymond Bird, negro, at Wytheville last August, is expected to be discussed late today by Governor Harry F. Byrd and Joseph H. Chitwood, of Roanoke, appointed special prosecutor in the case. Floyd Willard was recently acquitted of complicity in the crime.

Oklahoman
Oklahoma City - Okla.
JUN 16 1927

Is the South More Savage?

HOME of chivalry and much devoted to culture, the south would indignantly deny it is nearer barbarism than the north. The south, however, needs to do more than deny it. Within a day's news we read of two negroes burned at the stake in Mississippi; of floggings by masked bands in Georgia and Texas. The south should think of that record with shame, and feel no better about it because, on occasion, there are lynchings and other manifestations of mob violence in the north. There are such outbursts throughout the country, greatly to the country's discredit.

Most people of the nation are horrified by such outrages, but they must do more than regret it. There are remedies that will relieve, while they will not eliminate such atrocities. The selection of better peace officers is one remedy. A sheriff with courage and a degree of resourcefulness often has averted a lynching that a weaker officer might have endured or even condoned.

Oklahoma is not holier than other states. Tulsa had race riots. Lynchings have occurred in several counties. Mob floggings were almost a commonplace a few years ago. Men have been sent to prison for participation in lynchings; sent to prison for life and paroled or pardoned in a few years. That is encouraging mob law. Men have been sentenced to prison for participation in mob flogging, and paroled before they went to prison. That is encouraging mob law.

Nor will there be an end to these things until the public conscience is sufficiently aroused to demand something better. Of all crimes, mob crimes are the most despicable, cowardly and dangerous, for such terrorism shakes public faith in government, and faith is essential to the stability of government. Surely the government is in part to blame, but the people need to know the extent to which they are responsible for their government.

VICKSBURG, MISS.
HERALD
JUL 12 1927

SHERIFFS AND CRIME

Dr. N. B. Bond, professor of Sociology at the University of Mississippi contends the lynching evil would be largely decreased if Mississippi sheriffs were not, under the law, both sheriff and tax collector. He argues sheriffs spend too much time collecting taxes and not enough time in apprehending criminals; that such practice creates a lack of public confidence in constituted authority and leads to mob violence.

With due respect to Dr. Bond's view this paper feels that the duties of tax collector have little to do with preventing efficient service on the part of sheriffs. The lynching record of Mississippi over a number of years is no worse, indeed not so bad as other states where sheriffs devote all their time to that one office. It is an easy matter for a Mississippi sheriff to organize his office so that both departments are well taken care of, if the sheriff himself is a capable man.

We believe two of the greatest contributing causes to mob violence are, first, the courts work too slowly in exacting justice in crimes of all nature; second, sheriffs fail to courageously fulfill their sworn duty in protecting prisoners in their charge.

There is another phrase of mob violence that comes from lack of firm public morale—a determination of the great majority of the people who are law abiding to wipe out lynchings. If every man and woman in Mississippi would put their shoulders to the wheel and by voice and action "go over the top" against lynch murder their would be no murders committed by mobs.

Public sentiment is too soft. The criminal minded figure their chances in the courts. Even if convicted few of our criminals serve full terms. The governor of Mississippi stated the other day that with 1,600 prisoners on our state farms there were 1,200 petitions for pardon on his desk. "Folks, stop this business of coming to Jackson with committees and asking pardons for criminals that have had a fair trial in your courts and you'll find the pardon record decreasing and the law correspondingly being made stronger day by day," he said.

This is sound logic and an admonition that should be heeded.

What Mississippi needs, what is needed all over our land, is full enforcement of our criminal laws, speedy action of the courts and a public moral that demands carrying out of sentences imposed on criminals.

Sheriffs can not be blamed for failure of the courts to act promptly. And for the fact that juries all too often will not function in accord with public sentiment.

Star
Shelby - N. C.
JUL

WHY MOB LAW PAYS NOT

There are numerous sane and humane reasons why mob law—the law of the lynching party—never pays. Remonstrating with a group of people so excited, and so incited, to do an unlawful act is a foolhardy task at the time. Soldiers with fixed bayonets and awaiting machine guns offer about the best reasoning for such a time. However, it does seem as if there is one reason, that of mistaken identity, that has bobbed up often enough in lynching and near lynchings to make any man think before he becomes a member of a mob, or lynching party.

A review of events of recent weeks in the two Carolinas should leave a matter of doubt, even with the most rabid, about taking the chance of handling the law to satisfy an excited group of men—

——One man, closely connected with the Alvin Mansel attack in Asheville, believes, or so he says, that Broadus Miller, who fatally attacked the Morganton girl, was the man who attempted the deeds for which Mansel is now serving a life sentence and came near dying for. What if it should turn out so—and Mansel had been lynched?

The widow of the slain Greenville (S. C.) sheriff, told shortly after the murder of her husband that she saw a man with a black face pass a window at a time near the killing. A short search for the face she saw at the window was made. Later the widow and a deputy of the slain officer were jailed charged with the crime. Suppose some negro had been caught who resembled the face at the window?

Word from Hickory is that colored people there, seeing the broadcast photo of Miller, cannot be sure whether the photo is that of Miller, or of Gene Martin. If the two look as near alike as that suppose the first excited band of men in Burke had encountered the wrong one?

It is easy in moments of excitement to make mistakes. Resemblance in some men, especially colored men, are unusually alike some times. In the court room with the usual careful procedure of courts that danger is eliminated.

The fearful chance of mistaken identity, if nothing else, should stay the hand of a mob or lynching party.

Lynchings—1927
Discussion.

White Press, (Southern.)

2408

TIMES
Florence Ala
MAR 7 1927

THE SHERIFF of one of the Carolina counties was asked if he believed that it would be possible to stop lynching by legislation, and in his reply he is quoted as saying in effect that of course such a thing would be possible. The only legislation necessary, he suggested, would be for a law to be passed which would automatically and permanently remove from office any sheriff and his deputies if a lynching occurred within their jurisdiction. This official also suggested that the law should provide for the payment of a sum of $10,000 to the family of any sheriff killed in the effort to prevent lynching, as a matter of insurance against extreme risk should such danger arise in the performance of this specific duty. There is very sound reasoning in the statement of this Carolina sheriff. The office of sheriff is much sought after, being perhaps a more popular position than any other within the vote of a county, and these offices usually afford excellent remuneration. Under such circumstances it is extremely unlikely that an officer would permit conditions to arise which would rob him of his office because of failure to discharge a duty of this nature. When lynchings occur it is always reported that the officers failed to recognize any members of the mob, but the public understands that it is generally the case that friends and supporters of these officers probably had a part in the lynching and that the officers are unwilling to tell on their friends. If the law suggested by the Carolina man were in effect such conditions would be destroyed, for it would be unreasonable to expect that officers would protect members of mobs who were turning them out of office at the same time they lynched a prisoners. From several angles this proposal to stop mob law has appeal, and the idea is passed on respectfully to the Alabama legislature.

"GEORGIA IS HERSELF AGAIN"

The Columbus Enquirer-Sun, in a moment of frank rejoicing, declares that "after a hysteria of religious intolerance and race prejudice . . . Georgia has recovered her balance, and decency and honor and justice are again something more than a figure of speech."

Here are the facts on which this happy conclusion is based:

Floggers of white men have been jailed, tried, convicted and sentenced to prison terms ranging from four years to life imprisonment. Assailants of negroes have been given jail sentences, and now a white man is sent to prison for one year —not for killing a negro, but for shooting at him.

It was Georgia, also, which rejected the anti-evolution bill inspired by William J. Bryan, who made one of his man-or-monkey addresses to the general assembly of this state. And it is well to reiterate the fact that "Earnest Willie" Upshaw, of Georgia, was defeated in his last race for Congress.

And the signs and portents prophecy a renaissance of tolerance and justice in Georgia. And if the quickening of this spirit of fairness is not retarded by organizations which obtain graft by preying on and inciting race and religious prejudices, then Georgia will achieve great things before the mid-century is recorded.

Georgia's friends and admirers, "who are legion," as the society department would say, congratulate the old State on her new spirit.

Bigotry, in its organized phases, at least, is slipping all over the South.

The Danger of Mob Law.

After an appreciable decline in the number of lynchings during the last several years, statistics made public recently indicate an upward trend again.

Incidents connected with the kidnaping of the little daughter of a Chattanooga official last month show how easy it is for a community to be worked up to such a state of frenzy that an innocent person may be put to death for a crime committed by another.

Following the paying of the ransom money by the father, a white man and woman were arrested. Both protested their innocence, but feeling against the man was so strong that he was removed to Nashville for safekeeping.

The kidnapers adopted a most ingenious method of receiving the ransom money and avoiding apprehension. But in almost every crime, no matter how shrewd the criminal, some point of safety is overlooked.

In this instance the numbers on the bills handed over by the anxious father proved the undoing of those who stole the child and held her for ransom.

A negro youth tendered one of the bills to a suburban druggist. The clew was followed, and the negro and a younger brother were arrested. Both confessed, and practically all of the ransom money was recovered.

The white man and woman, of course, were released. And yet if the man had not been spirited away from Chattanooga immediately following his arrest, he might have been lynched. The blood of an innocent man would have been on the hands of the mob members, and maybe the real criminals would have escaped detection and punishment.

Mob law is always dangerous. It jeopardizes the lives of those who are guiltless and creates a disrespect of law on the part of the community.

THE CAROLINA LYNCHING.

The action of the South Carolina legislature in decrying the lynching of three negroes in Aiken county, in that state, several months ago, and in indorsing the recently expressed position of the executive that efforts to apprehend and punish the members of the mob would continue, sounds and reads well enough.

Such expressions in denunciation of mob violence are worthy and should always be commended.

But why is there not definite action?

For several weeks intensive investigations have been in progress. A mass of testimony was recently carried before the Aiken county grand jury. It returned the curt finding that it disapproved of lynching but "could not authorize indictments on the evidence in hand." And yet one of the state senators, in discussing the matter before that body Wednesday, vigorously declared, in response to a statement of another senator, that "everybody there (the city of Aiken) knows where it was done," that everybody also knows "who was in it."

If that is true—and perhaps to a degree it is true—then there is something radically wrong with the administration of the judiciary system in Aiken county. It is an indictment that cannot go unanswered, or else Aiken county's silence will condemn.

No lynching in recent years was more brutal or created throughout the country a more terrific storm of public indignation. The circumstances, then and since, as alleged, shocked the people of the nation, hinting as they did at organized mob rule, at collusions, and at intimidations of courts and juries.

What is needed in Aiken county is the same militant spirit to break up night riding, hooded lawlessness and the like that was shown recently by Judge Harry Reed and the grand jury and court officials of Coffee county in this state.

If that kind of uprightness and law-preserving fearlessness is made to assert itself in Aiken county, the lynchers will soon be in the clutches of the law where they belong to be. And South Carolina will have redeemed herself from a stain that is even greater than the stain from the lynching itself—that is, the stain of helplessness from the mob, of capitulation to terrorizing hoodlums who defy law and all constituted authority.

A state senator has thrown down the challenge. He says the lynchers are known. Then is Aiken county in the zone of abandon and lawlessness, or in the zone of civilization and law and order? The county is on trial. It will in time answer those questions one way or another.

No Way to Beat Anti-Lynching Laws.

Some time ago three negroes were taken from the officers at Aiken, S. C., and lynched. At the time of these summary executions the guilt of the victims was far from being established, and this fact caused one of the New York newspapers to take

an interest in that case. The activities of that publication were resented, a reaction that would be natural anywhere in the country towards outside meddling with the affairs of any section. But, even so, resentment against outside meddling can not relieve any section of its obligation towards preserving respect for the sanctity of the law and of lawful procedure.

The other day the grand jury which had been investigating the lynching made its report in which it stated that insufficient evidence was developed to warrant an indictment. The jury urged that the same amount of publicity which was given to the exposure of the lynching be devoted also to its statement that. "We do positively condemn lynching, mob violence or anything else that would reflect upon the state." That condemnation, however, must appear to be more in the abstract than in the concrete and much more patent in theory than in practice.

The grand jurors expressed their thanks to the attorney general who conferred with them, to the solicitor and to the detective who represented the governor for their assistance in making the investigation. That thanks, we are to presume, was evidence of a crime that is not disputed and that should be prosecuted by the proper authorities, but which was so inconclusive that not even the first step in the way of prosecution could be taken upon it. Really, then, it will seem strange that so much gratitude was due in a case where so little was accomplished for those who are so grateful.

Whatever one may think about the matter he cannot believe that such action as was taken at Aiken will in any way weaken the advocacy in some sections of the country of a federal anti-lynching law.

SENATORS DECRY AIKEN LYNCHING AS 'SHAMEFUL'

Heated Debate Is Caused in Upper House of Legislature in Palmetto State.

Columbia, S. C., February 2.—(AP) The Aiken lynching caused a heated debate in the senate today when on motion of Senator Williams, of Aiken, the resolution commending the governor for his stand in the matter was recalled from the house for the purpose of amendment. Senator Williams, who was absent when the resolution was unanimously adopted yesterday, insisted that the resolution specify that the lynching took place in Aiken county, not in the city of Aiken.

Declaring that it was unnecessary for a legislative body to go upon record as condemning lawlessness, Williams said he was opposed to the lynching as much as anyone else, but for the purpose of keeping the record straight, he wished to specify that the murder of Bertha, Demon and Clarence Lowman took place outside the city, "towards the Edgefield side of the county," and added, "where the tall pine trees are much bigger and stronger than the little delicate trees that ornament the city of Aiken."

Characterizing the lynching as "a shameful, horrible murder," Senator Greneker, author of the resolution, said "if the lynching can be made more beautiful by decorating it with the tall pine trees, I am willing to let the correction stand. I believe some people of Edgefield are charged with responsibility, and it may be political death to hold sentiments condemning this horrible crime, but if so, I gladly assume the penalty. This resolution was written from the heart."

Senator J. E. McDonald, Jr., of Fairfield, in adding his support to the resolution as passed, characterized the lynching as "one of the most shameful murders ever committed in the state," and asked "how is the senator so sure of the locality?"

"Everyone there knows where it was done," replied Senator Williams.

"And knows who was in it," McDonald added.

Renewing his plea that the record be kept straight" and that Aiken county be noted as the location of the affair, Senator Williams said "I am against mob violence. It may be justified or unjustified, but it is unlawful."

On seconding of Senators Ouzts, Ward and Spivey, the senate voted to recall the resolution from the house which was later done, when the word "county" was inserted after Aiken in naming the scene of the lynching.

ANOTHER LYNCHING.

Georgia made a 100 per cent anti-lynching record during the first half of 1926. Congratulations were in order.

We felicitated the state. All over the country the press, especially those few newspapers in the north and central west, that never leave an opportunity to score the south for these and other alleged and imaginary shortcomings, began to commend us most heartily—especially Georgia.

And then the pendulum began to swing the other way. Night riding, "regulating," lynching, mob-murdering, flogging, began in different sections, as if by organized effort rather than by chance.

Now comes the report of the recent lynching of a negro in north Georgia, following closely upon the heels of the disgraceful flogging affair in south Georgia.

At Waldo, seventy miles from Gainesville, "unidentified parties" are alleged to have taken a negro prisoner from jail Monday night, "conducted him to a lonely spot and riddled his body with bullets."

He was 55 years of age, and charged with the exacting of an alleged debt from a woman at the point of a pistol, it is said.

It matters not what the charge was, however. He was in the hands of the law. He was entitled to his day in court. The judiciary system was established to protect society from all crimes by apprehending and punishing criminals. If he was guilty he would have been so found and punished according to law. Either the law is master or the mob is master.

If this wave of law defiance by mob is not arrested at once no power on earth can prevent congress from passing the Dyer anti-lynching bill, or one equally as drastic, and equally as hurtful to the south, and to our time-honored principles of states' rights. The Dyer bill passes jurisdiction over such cases to the federal courts, and otherwise tears at the very vitals of our state judiciary system, and at our democracy.

Southern members of congress cannot longer brook the tide unless there is a complete change of our present record, which is running at a flood as to mob violence. Surely the law-abiding majority in Georgia can meet and master this situation produced by a minority terrorism.

York Enquirer
York, S. C.
FEB 4 1927

Lynch Law in South Carolina.

The grand jury of Aiken county, S. C., reports that it finds the evidence submitted concerning the lynch-law murder last October of Clarence Demon and Bertha Lowman, negroes, insufficient to warrant indictments. The perpetrators are well known in the community. The finding of the Aiken grand jury simply upholds lynch law in defiance of the known facts.

Gov. Richards is fortunately alive to the smirch upon the honor of the state left by the Aiken county mob. "There can be," he says, "no justification of lynch law, I care not what the offense." The lyncher "strikes at the very foundation of our civilization." Gov. Richards is not through with the case:

The Aiken lynching, which the evidence shows was the act of a very small group of men, is one of the most bestial that has happened in our state. I promised in my inaugural address that I would stand for the majesty of the law. I meant what I said. I promise the people of South Carolina that, if it lies in my power the Aiken lynchers shall be brought to justice.

Aiken county's shame has attracted the attention of the whole country. Orderly and law-abiding citizens everywhere will hope that Gov. Richards's arm may prove long enough and strong enough to grasp and punish the murderers.—New York World.

RECORD
COLUMBIA, S. C.
MAR 30 1927

GOLF STILL DANGEROUS

For a time it seemed likely that a great change was to come over South Carolina. The Legislature passed a bill repealing the ancient Sunday blue laws, thereby making it as safe to play golf in South Carolina as it seems to be to lynch Negroes there during the week.

But the governor vetoed the bill. The Senate repassed it over his veto, and it nearly got through the House. But not quite. The necessary two-thirds vote was not forthcoming, and Sunday golfers are still liable to arrest in the Palmetto state.

No lynchers have been arrested as yet, so it is still more dangerous in South Carolina to shoot nine holes of golf on Sunday than it is to shoot three Negroes in Aiken.—Baltimore Evening Sun.

GRAPHIC
Lagrange - Ga.
FEB 4 1927

Characterizing the failure of the Aiken, S. C., grand jury to find true bills in the Lowman lynching case as a "miserable miscarriage of justice," Governor Richards said that if in his power, "these lynchers shall be brought to justice. Continuing he said: "There can be no justification of lynch law. I care not what the offense. The lyncher disregards all laws, spits in the face of the courts and strikes at the very foundation of our civilization."

Lynchings - 1927
Discussion

2409

White Press, (Southern).

2409

Golfers, 4; Lynchers, 0

Sunday afforded pretty good hunting in South Carolina. Guardians of the law report a total bag of four golfers. No lynchers were brought in, but fear of the Governor, if not of God, was certainly thrown into the hearts of golfers, who are now stampeding for refuge into North Carolina.

There seems to be a fair chance if this keeps up that South Carolina will be denuded of Sunday golfers. Nothing unpleasant has happened to lynchers thus far, but the public will not pay much attention to that as long as the harrying of the golfers is spectacular enough. That is one good reason for harrying golfers—it keeps people from thinking about the lynchers.

It is reported that the Governor is being spurred to the crusade against Sunday golfers by the warm commendation of ministers all over the State. It is a pity there are no statistics available to show how many ministers were as vigorous in spurring him to a crusade against lynchers.

However, it cannot be denied that the Governor is accomplishing something. Only a few more raids, and murdering negroes will be the only outdoor sport in which a South Carolinian may safely engage on a dull Sunday afternoon.

Thus does civilization advance.—Baltimore Evening Sun.

TIMES-DISPATCH
RICHMOND, VA.
FEB. 4 1927

The South Carolina Lynching.

FOR three months the public has had before it the case of the lynching of the three Lowmans, negroes, in Aiken County, South Carolina. Through the efforts of the New York World much of the information surrounding the lynching has been made public. The murders were most brutal. They drew upon retiring Governor McLeod the criticism that he was not doing all in his power to bring conviction to those who formed the mob. The new Governor, Richards, was drawn into pledging his efforts upon entering office to bring the whole matter before the grand jury. Prominent citizens and Senator Cole Blease entered the controversy.

Governor Richards has taken office, the grand jury has met and arrived at the conclusion that there was not sufficient evidence to identify the members of the mob, the Attorney-General has announced that the incident is closed. In comment on the action of the grand jury the Charleston News and Courier declares: "It can hardly be said that the grand jury's action is a surprise. . . . in the Lowman case it was evident from the first that only extraordinary measures would bring the perpetrators of these dastardly murders to trial for their crime."

Commenting on the request of the grand jury that publicity be given to its decision, the News and Courier continues: "The only thing that could count was a presentment against the murderers who dragged these negroes from the Aiken jail and shot them to death. . . . it is idle to ask any intelligent person to believe that a truly diligent effort to apprehend these murderers would not have uncovered their identity." It asks why the public was given to believe there was sufficient evidence to indict if the grand jury is correct in its contention.

The News and Courier admits the grand jury is all powerful but continued: "The Aiken County grand jury has done Aiken and South Carolina a poor service in not getting to the bottom of this case. The public at large will continue to believe that it could have done so. As it is we have had nothing but gestures, nothing but works. Officers of the law have been accused of condoning and even of taking part in this dreadful affair—and the end is silence. The machinery of the law has proved impotent to avenge the law."

Following a statement from Governor Richards the News and Courier declared a few days later: "The public at large does not know what testimony was put before the grand jury at Aiken, but Governor Richards says that he is familiar with it and that he is convinced in his own mind that it makes out a prima facie case against the murderers of the Lowmans. It thoroughly convinced him also that this was 'one of the most bestial lynchings that has happened in South Carolina."

This is rather strong talk, but it comes from a newspaper that has been on the firing line. It convinces the public that in this instance "the machinery of the law has proved impotent to avenge the law." But it also convinces the public that there is a new determination in the South to put an end to lynching through the punishment of the lynchers. The goal was not reached in this case, but public opinion becomes more insistent. There will be fewer lynchings in South Carolina and in the South.

COLUMBIA, S. C.
State
FEB 3 1927

AIKEN LYNCHING AGAIN DENOUNCED

Motion by Williams Evokes Debate.

IN AIKEN COUNTY

Holds Resolution Misleading in Omission of Word—Members Voice Views.

Sharp denunciation of the Aiken lynching, in which three Lowman Negroes, one a woman, were done to death in Aiken last October, was evoked in the senate chamber yesterday when Senator J. F. Williams of Aiken made a motion that the senate recall from the house a concurrent resolution, passed by the senate Tuesday, in which the general assembly pledged to the governor its co-operation and aid in his efforts to bring to justice the members of the lynching party.

The preamble to the resolution, introduced by Senator T. B. Greneker of Edgefield, was as follows: "Whereas, the recent lynchings in Aiken are a disgrace; and, whereas we thoroughly condemn such acts, both as a disgrace to our state and a sin against humanity. . . ." The Aiken senator was out of the senate chamber when the upper house adopted the resolution and yesterday he wanted it recalled so that the word "county" could be inserted after the word "Aiken" so that every one would know that the lynching took place in Aiken county and not in the city of Aiken.

Talks of Resolution.

"The lynching did not occur in the city of Aiken," Senator Williams said. "It occurred in the county of Aiken, on the Edgefield side of the county in a section where the pine trees are larger and more vigorous than the small, delicate trees which ornament the city of Aiken. I merely want to insert 'county' after the word Aiken," he said.

"I don't know for whose consumption this resolution is intended," he contiued. "Whether for consumption at home or for foreign consumption. I don't see why the general assembly should go on record as saying that lynching is a crime or is wrong—it seems to me that should go without saying. When the governor says he stands for law and order, it is not necessary for us to say we stand for law and order—I'm not opposing the resolution, but I want the resolution to keep the record straight. The lynching took place in a grove of pines in the county—not in the city—I don't believe it could have occurred in the city of Aiken."

"If the recent scenes enacted in this state can be made more beautiful by adorning them with pine trees, I have no objection," Senator Greneker of Edgefield replied.

"I offered the resolution out of my heart. It is time for South Carolina to break down this thing that has brought shame to the state.

"The three Negroes were murdered and some people of Edgefield county have been charged with being in it—that may not be the case. This resolution may not be popular—it may mean the political death of the author of it, but in my opinion there can be no 'decorating' of the crime which has been committed. These Negroes, in the custody of the courts, were taken out and killed," Senator Greneker continued.

"Who stands here wishing to defend these murderers? If this body wants to soft handle this resolution—wants to pussyfoot about it—why, recall the resolution and kill it, and let the general assembly be responsible for killing it.

"This thing should be pushed to its conclusion. Lynching cannot be justified in law or in conscience."

Williams Makes Reply.

"Mob violence," Senator Williams replied, "may be justified in some cases and in some cases it may not—but it is unlawful. I don't defend the lynchers—I don't know who they are. As for some of them being from Edgefield county, I don't belive they were guilty. But we are not called upon to say we do not approve of lawlessness."

"This lynching," Senator J. E. McDonald, Jr., of Fairfield said, "is the most horrible affair ever pulled off in a civilized country. When we lose confidence in our courts, we relapse into barbarism."

"The point is that the lynching did not occur in the city of Aiken," Senator Williams replied.

"How do you know where it occurred?" Senator McDonald asked.

"Everybody knows where it occurred," replied Senator Williams—"and who did it," interjected Senator McDonald.

"Mob violence," Senator Williams said, "is not confined to a crowd of men. It is known to occur in legislative bodies."

"I don't know just where the lynching took palce," Senator D. A. Spivey of Horry remarked. "The jail was in the town of Aiken—and the prisoners were taken from that jail—just what is a lynching?"

Senator S. M. Ward of Georgetown said he could well see the point of Senator Williams' argument. "Many people from the North winter in the city of Aiken," he said. "I can see why the senator does not want it published that the lynching occurred in the town of Aiken."

After some further remarks, the motion to recall the resolution was carried and the word "county" was inserted after "Aiken," no other changes being made.

The Purdy bill to empower the governor to remove from office any sheriff or other peace officer from whom a prisoner may be taken by a mob was returned yesterday to the house from the judiciary committee with a majority favorable, minority unfavorable report.

The majority report, recommending the passage of the bill, was signed by James H. Sullivan of Laurens; the minority report, recommending the rejection of the bill, by J. E. Stansfield of Aiken.

The measure, introduced last week by H. Klug Purdy of Jasper county, was the occasion of heated debate in the committee room, the argument, committee members admitted, revolving largely about Aiken's unpunished lynching of Bertha, Demon and Clar-

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE.)

ence Lowman. The bill, one member of the committee opposing the enactment declared, is just "a slap at Aiken."

The vote on the bill in the committee stood, it was announced, 11 to 7 in favor of the measure's passage.

The bill, which goes to the calendar for consideration when reached, provides:

"That the governor of the state of South Carolina be, and he is hereby authorized, empowered and directed to remove from office any sheriff or other peace officer who permits or allows or who has had taken from him, or from his custody or control in any way, a prisoner who is afterward whipped, killed or lynched."

CONSTITUTION
ATLANTA, GA.
FEB 5 1927

THE CAROLINA LYNCHING.

The action of the South Carolina legislature in decrying the lynching of three negroes in Aiken county, in that state, several months ago, and in indorsing the recently expressed position of the executive that efforts to apprehend and punish the members of the mob would continue, sounds and reads well enough.

Such expressions in denunciation of mob violence are worthy and should always be commended.

But why is there not definite action?

For several weeks intensive investigations have been in progress. A mass of testimony was recently carried before the Aiken county grand jury. It returned the curt finding that it disapproved of lynching but "could not authorize indictments on the evidence in hand." And yet one of the state senators, in discussing the matter before that body Wednesday, vigorously declared, in response to a statement of another senator, that "everybody there (the city of Aiken) knows where it was done," that everybody also knows "who was in it."

If that is true—and perhaps to a degree it is true—then there is

something radically wrong with the administration of the judiciary system in Aiken county. It is an indictment that cannot go unanswered, or else Aiken county's silence will condemn.

No lynching in recent years was more brutal or created throughout the country a more terrific storm of public indignation. The circumstances, then and since, as alleged, shocked the people of the nation, hinting as they did at organized mob rule, at collusions, and at intimidations of courts and juries.

What is needed in Aiken county is the same militant spirit to break up night riding, hooded lawlessness and the like that was shown recently by Judge Harry Reed and the grand jury and court officials of Coffee county in this state.

If that kind of uprightness and law-preserving fearlessness is made to assert itself in Aiken county, the lynchers will soon be in the clutches of the law where they belong to be. And South Carolina will have redeemed herself from a stain that is even greater than the stain from the lynching itself—that is, the stain of helplessness from the mob, of capitulation to terrorizing hoodlums who defy law and all constituted authority.

A state senator has thrown down the challenge. He says the lynchers are known. Then is Aiken county in the zone of abandon and lawlessness, or in the zone of civilization and law and order? The county is on trial. It will in time answer those questions one way or nother.

Sun
Orangeburg - S.C
MAR 23 1927

COURAGE IN OFFICIALS A WAY TO STOP LYNCHINGS

An old-time Southern Sheriff, long ago retired to spend the remainder of his life in the home of a son who had prospered in business in New York City, was entertaining a group of his cronies at his favorite "hang-out" on the subject of lynching, and in the course of his discussion he advanced what he called a "certain and sure" remedy for this blot on American civilization. All that is necessary, according to the venerable former officer of the law, is moral courage on the part of those having in custody persons awaiting trial for crime.

"I stress the term 'moral courage'", he said. "Most Sheriffs are brave men in a physical sense. In all my time I never encountered or heard of but one 'white-livered' Sheriff. The great trouble is, they are elected officials; they depend upon the votes of their fellow-citizens to hold on to their jobs, and that is why they can so often adopt the easiest way out of a clash with mobs—by abjectly giving up the prisoner for whose life the lynchers are clamoring. The next election always looms as a powerful factor in their course of action when the mob demands the keys of the jail.

"The luckless victims control NO votes, whereas the mob members might very well hold the BALANCE OF POWER or at least wield a strong influence at the polls. At any rate, that is about the way the Sheriff reasons the matter. He is absolutely wrong, of course. In the end public sentiment invariably backs the Sheriff who refuses to truckle to the mob, and Sheriffs who have given the lynchers a taste of accurate gunfire in protecting prisoners in their care are re-elected in about ninety-nine cases out of a hunderd, if they again are candidates for the office.

Says Lynchers Lack Courage

"For nearly fifty years I held various law-enforcement positions—in the South and Southwest, and for a while lived in Alaska during the gold rush period of 30 years ago. I have seen a number of mobs in action, and I say unhesitatingly that the average lynching mob is the most cowardly lot of 'yellow' jackals that God Almighty ever breathed life into. I have seen them turn tail too often in the face of real courage not to know whereof I speak.

"Now, let me remark right here that I draw a distinctive line between the old-fashioned Vigilant Committees of the West and the ordinary lynching gangs that infest States where there is every safeguard for law and order. The Vigilants operated where there was no law; the organized as a measure of self-protection; they represented all the law there was at that particular time and place.

"Our modern lynching mobs, on the other hand, operate in defiance of the law; they flout all the safeguards of courts, Sheriffs and police. They are not representative citizens and they trample on these means a civilized community has set up for itself. They know all this full well, however buoyed up by liquor they may be on the occasion of the 'lynching bee.' Half or three-quarters drunk, as is the case with most of the lynching mobs, they are never too befuddled not to understand just how far to go in opposition to a determined and fearless Sheriff.

"Make no mistake, they will save their own precious hides. Very rarely did you ever hear of a member of a lynching party receiving injuries.

"Just give me one sure-shot rifleman—I would not want but one—and I will stand off from a jail any mob of 500 that ever was mustered to do an unfortunate to death without due process of law. I have seen the thing work out time and time again. The realization of guilt on the part of the mob undermines and saps their courage, if they had any to start with.

One Against Three Hundred

"Way back in the early '80s when I was Sheriff of a county in a Southern State, we had in the jail a couple of negroes who had been arrested for killing a white farmer in a dispute over a division of crops. The men had been in jail several weeks, and while there had been some talk of violence, it had pretty well died out.

"The community, as a whole, was perfectly willing to let the law take its course and accord the prisoners a fair trial. The Court had appointed an able young attorney to defend them the defendants being without money to employ counsel.

"But one Saturday, while I was in an adjoining county on some official business, a big crowd of farmers and cotton mill operatives gathered in the little city which was our county seat and began to 'liquor up,' as the saying goes. The more mean whisky they swallowed the more they felt aggrieved that the two men in jail should be permitted to live until they could be tried in accordance with the law.

"They had no particular interest in or affection for the slain man. It was just an ugly, rum-soaking aggregation that worked itself up to a point where nothing would suit them but a hanging. About sundown they were ready for business. The two or three policemen of the town were powerless to disperse the crowd which gathered on what we called the 'swapping ground' a place where the farmers were wont to congregate to swap horses and talk politics and shrae 'swigs' from their quart flasks of corn liquor.

Calmly Awaited the Mob

"Bill Holly—dead these long years, and peace to his ashes, for he was the nerviest man in a tight place it was ever my pleasure to meet—was my deputy and jailer, and he was alone in the jail, with the exception of my wife and small son, a lad of some ten years of age at the time. When he heard of the formation of the mob he calmly went about preparing for eventualities.

"Holly strapped two .45 Colts about his waist, took up a Winchester rifle, bit off a fresh chew of tobacco and sat down on the jail porch.

"From the jail porch ran a walk to the jail yard gate, a distance of about sixty feet, and the gate opened out on a narrow street or alley connecting with the town square about 200 yards away. A ten-foot brick wall ran entirely around the jail.

"Presently the mob, about 300 strong came surging into the alley from the square, headed by a notorious county bully and so-called bad man, who always carried two guns. It was not against the law at that time to bear pistols, if they were not concealed.

"The mob reached the gate and it was thrown open. We never kept it locked. As the mob leader entered the yard Holly lifted his rifle to his shoulder and in even, conversational tones remarked:

"'Get on the outside of that gate, Jim Turner, and be damned quick about it, or I'll bore you!'

"Holly had clipped off many turkey head at 300 feet at Christmas shooting tourneys. The mob knew it.

"As Turner backed out and closed the gate he demanded:

"'Give us them keys, Holly, unless you want us to fill your carcass full of lead. We aim to string the mniggers if we have to string you along with 'em.'

"'All right' retored Holly. 'I give you fair warning. The first man that comes through that gate will get a bullet from this rifle between his eye-balls, so help me God! It's our job to do the hanging in this county, and until we git the orders from court ther'll be no hanging of them niggers upstairs or anybody else in this jail."

None Wanted to Be First

"Of course, the mob could easily have swarmed through the gate and upon the porch and overwhelmed Holly, but in so doing anywhere from two to half a dozen would not have lived to enjoy the evening's enterprise; and so, after some cursing and swearing desultory shots fired into the air, the gang broke up and went home to sleep it off.

"In due course the negroes were tried. One was acquitted, he being entirely innocent, and the other proved that he slew under great provocation fearing for his own life, and he was sent to prison for two years. He is living today, an aged and respected negro farmer.

"I saw an undersized little miner at Cape Nome in 1898 during the first of the rush to the gold digging there, stand off eight bullies who tried to 'jump' his claim.

"'I'll get one of you, that's sure,' he exclaimed, as with drawn shotgun he stood before his shack and defied the gang who ordered him to 'beat it.'

"Yes, that is the solution of the lynching problem. Elect men to office who put their solemn oath of duty above political expediency. "Let your memory do a little back-tracking. Did you ever hear of one, single solitary instance of a lynching mob getting its man over the determined resistance of officers of the law? I challenge any one to name such a case."

Lynchings-1927
Discussions.

White Press, (Southern)

2410

RECORD
COLUMBIA, S. C.
JUN 4 1927

This Is What Eliminates Mobs.

With four dead, three seriously wounded, scores less seriously hurt and thirty or more of a Tampa mob under arrest, officers defending the jail there have just reported that the law and order agency is still doing business at the old stand.

The mob for several days swarmed off and on around the jail, making desperate efforts to remove and lynch a prisoner confined in the jail, where he was awaiting trial. The county officers stood pat and as a precaution took steps to put the National Guard on the scene.

They were successful and the notice to mobs was finally reduced to bullets. This sort of treatment, if persisted in by all officers sworn to uphold the law, with their lives if necessary, would ultimately make mobs as scarce as snowballs in the place where mobs come from.

POST
VICKSBURG, MISS.
JUN 17 1927

LET THE LAW TAKE ITS COURSE.

The state of Mississippi is on trial again, and all lovers of the state will hope that she will emerge successfully from the ordeal which it is about to undergo. There was committed near Jackson a week or so ago, as dastardly a murder as ever disgraced not only the state, but the whole country. The fiend in human form, who did this thing had so far as can be learned, some trifling motive such as revenge for being discharged. It was deliberate, premeditated, as executed and planned. People with normal minds can have nothing but horror and loathing for such a brute, the wish that speedy justice be meted out to him is the hope and desire of all liberty-loving citizens. All kinds of sensational reports have been sent out such as that a mob was moving on Kilby prison, where the confessed murderer was confined. Nothing more foolish and probably untrue than this could be imagined. Kilby is a fortress, and could only be taken by artillery. It could not be rushed and standing out in the midst of an open plain, it would be suicide for attackers to attempt to enter it.

In spite of the dastardliness of the crime, all lovers of the state and its traditions will hope that this brute will be given a fair trial, that nothing will disgrace the state such as the taking of this fiend from the properly constituted law officers and that when the trial takes place in Jackson on next Monday, it will result in as swift conviction and swift execution of sentence. The orderly processes of law have very much more of a deterrent effect upon crime than mob murders. Lynchings are the most disastrous things which can happen to a body politic, and it is a thousand times to be preferred that the law should move and move swiftly to avenge such a crime, than that men should take the law into their own hands, no matter what the provocation. Lynching tears down the very structure of our government, the belief in the sanctity of all law; if this is violated, then all security is in danger. On the other hand, it must be admitted that the law's delays, the too-frequent appeals and the long time elapsing between trials, sometimes two or more years in many states, have given the would-be lynchers some reason for their acts. Why American jurisprudence should take all of this time, why a convicted murderer, a self-confessed murderer should have to wait a year for execution, while learned judges are off on their summer vacations, is one thing the people cannot understand, and why they sometimes rise in their anger and lynch the confessed assassins.

Why cannot we adopt in America the methods of England, where murderers get quick service and such things as appeals and again appeals are unknown.

Murdering can be a fairly safe trade in this country of ours as is demonstrated in Chicago and New York, the safety being predicated upon the inability to secure conviction and the little likelihood of sentence if convicted.

These things do not happen in Mississippi. We have no gunmen class. The state has a fair name, it should not be sullied by a lynching but justice should be meted out swift and unerringly to the doer of this last fiendish murder. Our bar associates, state and national, meet yearly and listen to beautiful speeches, extolling law and liberty. If once they would get together upon a platform of quick enforcement of the law, speedy justice, what lynchings, what murders they could prevent. Let all good Mississippians hope that the law will be vindicated, that no lynchings will take place, but to prevent this, speedy justice must be done. Let us all hope that this will happen.

Oklahoman
Oklahoma City, Okla.
JUN 16 1927

Is the South More Savage?

HOME of chivalry and much devoted to culture, the south would indignantly deny it is nearer barbarism than the north. The south, however, needs to do more than deny it. Within a day's news we read of two negroes burned at the stake in Mississippi; of floggings by masked bands in Georgia and Texas. The south should think of that record with shame, and feel no better about it because, on occasion, there are lynchings and other manifestations of mob violence in the north. There are such outbursts throughout the country, greatly to the country's discredit.

Most people of the nation are horrified by such outrages, but they must do more than regret it. There are remedies that will relieve, while they will not eliminate such atrocities. The selection of better peace officers is one remedy. A sheriff with courage and a degree of resourcefulness often has averted a lynching that a weaker officer might have endured or even condoned.

Oklahoma is not holier than other states. Tulsa had race riots. Lynchings have occurred in several counties. Mob floggings were almost a commonplace a few years ago. Men have been sent to prison for participation in lynchings; sent to prison for life and paroled or pardoned in a few years. That is encouraging mob law. Men have been sentenced to prison for participation in mob flogging, and paroled before they went to prison. That is encouraging mob law.

Nor will there be an end to these things until the public conscience is sufficiently aroused to demand something better. Of all crimes, mob crimes are the most despicable, cowardly and dangerous, for such terrorism shakes public faith in government, and faith is essential to the stability of government. Surely the government is in part to blame, but the people need to know the extent to which they are responsible for their government.

2410

NEWS
CHATTANOOGA, TENN.
JUN 16 1927

Mississippi's Paramount

Mississippi has a campaign in progress for the selection of a governor. She also has an issue which challenges attention. The issue is one of whether the state shall be governed by the law or the mob. It has become so acute as not easily to be avoided. Persons outside the state of Jefferson Davis and L. Q. C. Lamar are watching with keen interest to note how various candidates for governor react to the situation.

There have, we believe, been three brutal lynchings within the current year. Others have been threatened and their execution apparently only temporarily averted. The mob in the capital city has put the authorities on notice of what is to be expected of them! Its members are at no particular pains to conceal their identity. If popular government, administered according to law, is to be preserved in Mississippi, it is high time her citizenship should awake.

Victims of recent lynchings in Mississippi were negroes. Offenses charged against them were very flagrant, even diabolical. There is probably little to be said in their behalf. But in lynching them, the mob crucified the law, every citizen's rightful protection, at the same time. A civilized community was reduced to murderous savagery. Mississippi must amend. She can in no way more effectually demonstrate the superiority of her boasted white civilization than by restoring and upholding the majesty of the law.

Star
Anniston Ala

JUN 4 1927

Mob Outbreaks Examples Of Enraged Public Opinion

Referring to the recent mob riots in Tampa, Fla., in which three citizens were killed and a score hurt, The Decatur Daily states that the "outbreak merely represents enraged public opinion unrestrained by the usual methods."

The Daily expresses its opinion of the Tampa incident as follows:

"With a death list of three and the possibility of the score wounded being more seriously hurt than now believed, Tampa is endeavoring to check the wave of bloodshed, which started when a mob endeavored to obtain from the custody of the law, a man who had confessed to a brutal crime. The Tampa outbreak merely represents enraged public opinion unrestrained by the usual methods.

"The temper of an individual or a community is a serious thing, once aroused. Sight, more often than not, is lost of the important things, and major objectives are passed without notice, while molé hills are made into mountains.

"The Tampa mob, if press reports may be accredited, first sought the confessed slayer of a family. The crime was sufficiently brutal to warrant almost any punishment, it would seem, but the members of the mob did not stop to consider that in taking the law into their own hands, they also were guilty of violating the regulations of the government they south to uphold.

"Foiled in their objective, and resisted by the officers of the law, the members of the mob then are said to have turned their spleen upon the sheriff and his deputies, wantonly burning the sheriff's automobile in front of the jail. Troops were called and the soldiers also came in for their share of the wrath of the rioters.

"Tuesday night and early Wednesday, soldiers and civilians clashed. The mob, no longer, sought the defendant in the case. They sought, instead, a chance to voice their anger at the armed guards about the jail. It was a foolish desire, but thoroughly typical of unconstrained anger.

"As a result of the clash three Tampa citizens are dead and 19 are wounded.

"Nothing can recall to life these three human sacrifices and nothing that can be said will lighten the burden of their sorrowing loved ones, but we may be permitted to draw this lesson, namely: that he who wants to live and do well can make no better start than by placing his temper in cold storage, where the danger is lessened that it will become inflamed. And the same goes for communities."

Where men form mobs as was done in Florida and take or attempt to take the law into their own hands, a blow is dealt at the proper administration of justice. Regardless of the size or atrocity of the crime, any defendant is entitled to a fair trial in a court and as The Daily says the members of the Tampa mob also were guilty of violating the regulations of the governments of their state and nation.

More recently and nearer to Anniston was an example of a successful attempt to avenge a slaying by a method which was in itself the same crime as that of which the other person was accused. This was in Talladega where a man shot down on the courthouse steps a negro who had just been acquitted of a charge of slaying the man's brother.

The man felt that the negro deserved the extreme penalty, but a jury after hearing the evidence in the case, decided that he was not guilty. That gave him his freedom and as far as can be seen, the brother of the dead man had no more lawful right to kill the negro than he would have had to shoot down any other person. If the jury had returned a verdict of guilty, the brother would have fought to have it upheld and he should have been as willing to respect the decision when it was contrary to what he desired.

CHARLESTON
SOUTH CAROLINA
JUN 15 1927

The Fools of Mississippi

The eyes of responsible American people are for the moment looking with abhorrence and disgust on the State of Mississippi. Two negroes accused of murder were taken from a deputy sheriff and burned to death. Had they been left in the hands of the law officers they would have been in due time tried by a jury of white men and found guilty, unless evidence, perhaps overwhelming evidence of their innocence had been presented. Convicted, they would have been hanged.

By the burning of them nothing has been gained for Mississippi except disgrace and consequent loss. White people worth having as citizens do not want to live in States or neighborhoods inhabited by white savages and, outside of remote regions in Africa and a few other parts of the world, men do not burn their fellows at the stake or lynch them. One never hears of lynching in China or in Japan. It is a curious incapacity to erect and maintain a civilization characterized by law that is sometimes shown by white men in Southern American States or, for that matter, in some of the Northern American States.

The lynching habit will, of course, if it does not come to an end, drive colored labor out of the South. These are times when negroes can get away. They do not require an "underground railroad."

Probably enough automobiles are owned by negroes in Mississippi to carry off the negro population from all the localities where it is subject to cruelty practiced by the worst classes of white people.

TIMES-DISPATCH
RICHMOND, VA.
JUN 30 1927

Police Officers and Lynchings.

IN its printable form, the English language is not vehement and vituperative enough to characterize in fitting terms those beastly mobs of ours that vent their murderous fury on suspected persons by shooting them, hanging them, burning them, and otherwise doing them to death. There is no defense for them and there is not even a scintilla of a time-worn excuse for them when they murder men suspected of crimes other than "the usual crime." There is no longer any excuse or any reasonable explanation for mob-murder in case even of "the usual crime," now that the criminal laws of nearly every State have been modified to meet the objections which actually used to exist to the giving of testimony in such cases. Court rooms are cleared, and different testimony is required to convict.

But just excoriation and bitter condemnation of mob-murderers cannot and should not relieve officers of the law of the burden of responsibility and suspicion that rests upon them in connection with nearly every instance of mob-murder. For the sworn officer who actually connives with the mob—and such connivance has not been unknown, even in Virginia—printable English terms of description and characterization are equally weak: he is a murderer and a betrayer of a trust as well. But the officer who does not connive, but only weakly yields, is only a shade less criminal than the mob and the conniving officer. In nine cases out of ten, if officers in charge of a prisoner made it clear that they would fight to their own death to discharge their plain duty there would be no lynching. A mob is as cowardly as it is cruel: one brave man, a man brave to the death, armed with authority and the consciousness of right, and also armed with shotgun, rifle or revolver, can usually cow a mob of irresponsible killers.

For some strange reason, sworn officers of the law, deputies, constables and whatnot, usually seem to think they have discharged their full duty when they have pleaded with the mob to "let the law take its course," certainly they have done their full duty when they have fired into the air. As a consequence of that twisted misconception of duty, officers are almost never hurt in an effort to protect their prisoners from murder by mobs. This does not refer to city policemen: to their eternal credit be it said that the average city policeman, no matter how bad an actor he may be in general, will fight to the last cartridge and the last breath to take his prisoner to a place of safety and to hold him safe.

It is different in general, with rural sheriffs and deputies and constables. They do not charge themselves with the duty of fighting it out, of endangering their own lives, merely for the purpose of preventing murder by a mob. It isn't sheer cowardice: if any one of these men enlisted in an army, he would die in the discharge of his duty as other men die. It's an odd kink which leads them subconsciously to take the view that if a mob is after a man who probably is guilty anyhow, they need not risk their lives to save him.

If we, we Americans, can bring about a change in sentiment, in public opinion, so that officers will hold it a man's duty, a sacred duty, to protect the most worthless of cringing criminals from mob-lust, lynchings of men in the hands of the law will come to an end. For, be it always remembered, the officers who have victims in custody almost never are hurt: they do not battle against the mob strongly enough to subject themselves to hurt.

Lynchings- 1927
Discussions

White Press. (Southern)

2411

AMERICAN
Hattiesburg, Miss.
JUL 12 1927

"I SAW A LYNCHING"

A judge of the Mississippi Supreme Court was discussing the evils of mob murder with the editor of The American a few months ago. In the course of the conversation the judge's face blanched as he described a lynching which he witnessed once in Hattiesburg while sitting on a vine-clad porch in the city talking with his sweetheart.

Under the caption, "I Saw a Lynching," Editor J. O. Emmerich, of the McComb City Enterprise, dramatically describes another lapse into barbarism almost identical with the judge's description of what he witnessed years ago in Hattiesburg. We reproduce Mr. Emmerich's masterpiece because, in the words of Editor J. R. Furr, of the Picayune Item, "At this time, Mississippi needs to think along these lines."

The editorial from the Enterprise follows:

"I saw a lynching once; saw a 'burley' headed young negro of about twenty years of age strangled, mutilated, hanged. Saw the mob slip a noose about his neck, saw a hundred or more men take slack out of a mighty grass rope, heard mad men curse and swear as they pounded the choking negro in the face with their fists as the crowd heaved on.

"I saw a man slice off a black right ear; saw the fingers of a white man slip through the negro's wool as he vainly sought to grip the short hair to add to the agony and pain; heard a gun explode as its handle was jammed into a skull.

"I saw that black body as it was dragged through the streets of a little city with a hundred men pulling on the rope as in a tug-of-war with hundreds of others begging for a hold; saw the rope tied to the axle of a Ford sedan; heard the motor chuckle as it responded to a mad man's foot, saw the car start on a fateful parade.

"I saw that senseless brute as he dragged behind that Ford; saw a dozen men or more as they stood upon his lacerated body and rode; viewed that same body a few moments later as it dangled from the limb of a small tree beside the creek; saw the clothing jerked from the lifeless body; heard a hundred shots, more or less, as they peppered in vengeance the body of a negro, guilty, no doubt, who was strangled into unconsciousness just a few seconds after the brutal orgy of the mob had commenced.

"That mob entertained themselves. In their madness they believed they were giving justice to a black man who had committed an unmentionable crime. They cut and cuffed, kicked and cursed, lacerated, mutilated and hanged a negro while the death angel stood aside mocking a crowd of senseless men who were seeking to pain a senseless body that had been cold in death before the celebration hardly had started. I marveled that men could so quickly revert to primitive instincts. I pictured a wild, excited bull as he ripped to threads the red cloth snatched from the hands of a toreador.

"The black had committed a capital crime. Had he been returned to the courtroom, awaiting him was no other verdict than capital punishment. The court assured a speedy trial, a speedy verdict, a speedy execution, for it was known that the negro was guilty. But the trial had just begun when there arose threats of dynamiting, of wholesale murder, of most anything. It was then that I saw the wild crowd enter and proceed with their awful dissipation.

"I knew the man who drove that car on that fateful journey with a dead negro tied to its differential. That man, today, is dead. I have many times wondered what his opinion of a lynching would be if he could come back to Mississippi and address a mob.

"I knew another man, a substantial citizen, who, with a Winchester rifle, stood off at the edge of the crowd as a marksman and a sharpshooter, ready to snuff out the life of any deputy who might be bold enough to interfere. That man, too, today is dead. I have meditated on his passing, tried to recall his likeness in my mind. He was a capable thinker in normal times. I wonder what his thought would be if he were called back in some mysterious way to deliver a lecture to school children on law enforcement, law endorsement, and the obligation of the individual citizen to the constitution of his state and nation.

"No man need speculate as to the opinion of these dead men were they again alive. Every sane person must admit that we have our choice between order and disorder; constitution or chaos; democracy and bolshevism.

"Men and women, there may have been a time when mob law was justifiable. There may have been a time when our government could not cope with the trying situation. But that time is no more. Mob law must be ostracized; it must be eradicated. The respect for the flag must be restored; the name of our country must be vindicated. The day of the mob must go. An era of order and intelligent procedure must be ushered in.

"There is but one way to re-establish intelligent handling of matters of justice, and that is law obedience. Obedience to the law must come first, impulsive law evasion must cease. Officers must enforce the law; citizens must see to it that the law is enforced.

"After all the question can be simplified. Is mob law good or bad for our people? Is it a means of advancing justice? Does it actually result in any good? Can mob law require anything that legal procedure cannot?

"The truth of the matter is that mob law is injurious to the best interests of all our people, even to the members of the mob themselves and to the members of the families, the sacredness of which may have been intruded upon. And for these reasons it should be abolished.

"I have seen a mob in action. That's why I am so bitterly opposed to mob law."

OBSERVER
CHARLOTTE, N. C.
JUL 20 1927

WHAT IS THE TRUTH?

Much unwholesome discussion is going the rounds about the manner of the slaying of Broadus Miller, negro outlawed for a murderous attack on a Morganton girl. Commodore Burleson slew the negro after a search lasting for many days. His story, that Miller shot at him with a shotgun when trapped, was originally accepted as fact, and the public was officially assured that Burleson shot n self-defense.

But now along comes a group of those who participated in the search with the unqualified statement that Miller was wantonly slain. They say the negro never fired the gun he carried. One story is that he was shot while asleep, and another that he had his hands up. Both sides of the argument seem to be well balanced, with one exception. Burleson has the small tree in which the shotgun shot lodged, claiming the negro missed him and hit the tree.

Under other circumstances, the two groups might be allowed to battle the matter out to their own wordy satisfaction, but this case is too serious for that. If Burleson's story is correct, it should be proved beyond a reasonable doubt, in view of the desirability for North Carolina to preserve her record of fair play for accused men.

Technically, Burleson is being unofficially accused of unlawful slaying in connection with a case in which he, by right of Executive order, was acting as a representative of society. If he is innocent, he has every right to demand an official investigation to clear his name. Just to let the matter rock along, without either story ever being proven, is not the course to be desired.

NO LYNCHINGS

"While reading of the Alabama flogging, the facts favorable do not overlook the fact that the State had no lynchings during the first six months of the year," says The Talladega Home.

Commenting on the foregoing, The Anniston Star says:

That is a good suggestion. While all law-abiding citizens of the state have been made to hang their heads in shame by the recent series of masked mob outrages, it gives us some consolation to recall that none of the lawless bands has gone to the extreme and taken a human life.

This is no justification of the floggings, but Alabama might be pardoned for showing some pride in her record in regard to lynchings. The record shows up to better advantage when we consider that our sister state, Mississippi, contributed four of the nine lynchings reported in the first six months of 1927.

Alabama has more than once shown that it can go, not nearly half a year, but a whole year without lynching anybody. It ought to resolve now that it will go forever without a lynching.

SENTINEL
WINSTON-SALEM, N. C.
JUL 5 1927

Speaking Frankly

Broadus Miller, negro, whose attack upon a young white girl of Morganton was so vicious as to cause her death, was shot to death by a mountaineer Sunday morning after he had been a fugitive for twelve days. The following paragraph from the news story which was sent out from Morganton later on in the day sums up the situation with graphic accuracy:

"This afternoon (Sunday) 5,000 persons were viewing the body of Broadus Miller, 35-year-old negro slayer of little Gladys Kincaid, pretty local girl, and generally rejoicing in the fact that after twelve days the slayer had finally been found. There was a sigh of relief from officers and cooler-headed persons who for nearly a week worked with all their might to prevent possible serious racial trouble and a lynching if the negro were caught alive."

Miller had, of course, started all the trouble when he committed the crime for which he was pursued—the most vicious crime in the whole criminal roster of the South. When a crime such as this is committed, it instantly sets two forces in motion. One force is the instinct to wreak vengeance upon the culprit, to visit swift and terrible punishment upon him. The other force is that of law and order which tries to shout above the tumult of the maddened crowd that the better way is to take the miscreant into custody and punish him in orderly manner after the law has had its say.

Both these forces were prominently on display in the Miller case. Thousands of people, not a few of them negroes, joined in the chase after him. At the same time, the sheriffs and other officers of the law reinforced by troops of the National Guard summoned to the scene by the Governor, participated in the chase determined to prevent a lynching. This move, coupled with the fact that the State has not had a lynching in years, proves the sincerity of the State in contending for law and order. Even after the negro had been killed, the authorities took precaution to protect the body from hands that might have hurled it upon an improvised funeral pyre or strung it from a tree.

"There was a sigh of relief from the officers and cooler-headed persons." Frankly speaking, the termination of the chase was fortunate. He was killed by a lone mountaineer while putting up a fight. There was nothing for Miller's slayer to do but shoot to kill. The thousands had something to feed their morbid instinct in the sight of the negro's dead body. That was better for the good order of the State than to have had a lynching. It will take time yet for this instinct to be supplanted by a finer spirit of observance of the law. Meanwhile, the law will have to be asserted; and officers charged with its assertion will have to be vigilant, firm and decisive.

NEWS
Florence Ala
JUN 22 1927

Jack Jury Is
To Be Commended

The Jackson, Miss., jury which yeste convicted a negro of a foul double mu after five minutes of deliberation, deserves be amended. It certainly did not act under any sort of duress, for there were enough soldiers stationed around the courthouse to prevent any sort of intimidation.

If more of our courts would be as expeditious there would be fewer lynchings.

While lynching is by no means to be tolerated, the things which comes nearer a justification for it than anything else is the slowness of the courts to function.

Trials and re-trials, appeals and more trials seem the order of the day in legal procedure in this generation, and it is hard for the average man to understand why it is that there is any more likelihood of justice in the third or fourth trial than in the first.

The people of Jackson doubtless feel greatly relieved over the situation, which was a very serious one as long as there was any chance that this negro brute might escape.

Fourteen companies of soldiers guarded the city yesterday against violence while the negro was on trial. Machine guns, tear bombs, barbed wire entanglements and all the paraphernalia of modern warfare were in evidence to prevent possible outbreak.

The law seems to have prevailed and it is to be hoped that the swift justice meted out to this negro will serve as a solemn warning to any others who have a disposition to commit such crimes.

OBSERVER
CHARLOTTE, N. C
JUL 5 1927

A FITTING END.

The fate that finally overtook the negro Broadus Miller, who attacked and cruelly put to death the little Morganton girl, and for which he had been outlawed, was better than a lynching. In the course of his hunted career he had become possessed with a shot gun as sole comforter in his desperate retreat, and this he was not slow in using when he found himself brought to bay by a lone mountaineer who had stuck to his trail. He undertook to add murder to murder, but the aim of his pursuer was the better, and the dead body of the assailant and murderer was carired to the town which had been agitated over the affair, and exposed to view as final evidence that vengeance had overcome the perpetrator. A distressing chapter in North Carolina history is thus closed and with no blot on the statute book by action of an outraged people.

NEWS
Griffin Ga
JUN 8 1927

NDS OF COURAGE.

rgh risked his own life to fly to Paris. ne kind of bravery.

pa, Fla., sheriff and his deputies re- rricaded themselves in the jail and by f firearms which injured eight, held ob of 600 which tried to effect a very and lynch a man charged with That is another kind of bravery.

ergh's deed, successful, brings him om all. The obscure sheriff's deed, it brings him the admiration and re- of decent citizens, subjects him to mob d and mob revenge.

hich man—Lindbergh or the sheriff—is braver?

Montgomery, Ala., Advertiser
JUN 25 1927

EXTRAMURAL PROGRAM AT TUSKEGEE IS DISCUSSED

A. L. Holsey Addresses Students at Summer School

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, ALA., June 24.—Special to The Advertiser.—A. L. Holsey, secretary to the principal of Tuskegee Institute and secretary of the national negro business league, in an address before the students of the summer school here Thursday outlined Tuskegee's extramural program, stating that the work of the institute in non-academic fields ranked in importance with its strictly scholastic work.

As features of Tuskegee's program, the speaker pointed out the advocacy of more and better educational facilities for the south; the stimulation of the economic development of the negro; the promotion of more cordial relations between black and whites; and the dissemination of information on negro history, literature and progress.

The Friday lecture was delivered by Dr. Phillip W. L. Cox of New York university.

Asheville, N. C.
Advocate
JUL 15 1927

Nine Lynchings for First Half of Year

North Carolina escaped the stigma of a lynching record during the first six months of 1927, according to the report of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial institute, just issued. Nine lynchings occurred during the first half of the year, which is identical to the total for the corresponding periods of 1925 and 1926. It is four more than the first six months of 1924 and six less than the total for the first half of 1923.

All the victims were negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1. States in which lynchings occurred were: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

Lynchings - 1927
Discussions.

White Press, (Southern).

Dublin, Ga. Courier-Herald

AUG 11 1927

THE ORIGIN OF LYNCH LAW

The use of a word or phrase often loses its original meaning through the years. The use of the term "lynch law" would see mto be a misnomer in one sense of the word if the following account of its origin is correct.

The phrase is now synonymous with "Mob law" but originally it referred to executing a sentence which duly constituted authorities had failed to carry out.

It seems that in the 15th century the then Mayor of Galway, Ireland, a Mr. James Lynch, and his son, had a house guest, a young Spaniard. The two young men were close friends but in a quarrel about a woman, the Irish lad stabbed and killed the guest.

The father had to act as judge of the trial which resulted in a finding of murder—and he pronounced sentence of death according to English law, although Irish custom would have been more lenient.

The boy's mother roused all her kindred against the decree and no one could be found to carry out the sentence. Then James Lynch himself took his son through the crowd up to the tower and hanged him.

Lynch then returned home, shut himself up, and never again set foot out of his own door.

SAVANNAH
GA.
ISSUE OF

AUG 28 1927

S ific Obligation

Philadelphia Record: Lynching has become a political issue in Forest county, Miss It is not an issue between the parties, because there is only one party, but the seekers after nominations at the primary election—which decides the whole thing—have been invited to answer this inquiry:

> If elected sheriff of Forest county, will you defend all prisoners in your custody and preserve your jail from attack by a mob, at the risk of your own life, shooting to kill, if necessary, in order to perform fully your statutory oath?

The candidate is asked if he will appoint deputies "who will go to the same length in defending an accused from mob attack as in procuring his arrest," and there is also a demand that whoever shall be elected sheriff shall issue a written statement warning immediately upon taking oath "that any attac upon the majesty of the law by mob will b met by all force necessary." The South has been very slow to suppress mob law, but it is evident that public opinion on the subject is rising.

STANDARD
Aiken, S.C.
SEP 6 1927

A "Conference" in Aiken.

A dispatch from Aiken printed in the Columbia Record last Wednesday tells that Governor Richards, Senator Blease, Col. Buckingham and many other prominent South Carolina politicians were in Aiken on that day to join in the celebration of the birthday of one of their friends and that "a big barbecue dinner, followed by a conference, will take place this afternoon." The object of the conference is not disclosed but the matter of principal interest which a conference of a number of the leading men in South Carolina, responsible for the good name of the State, might discuss would be the lynching of the Lowman negroes. That affair has brought more shame upon South Carolina than any other in five or six years. It aroused indignant comment all over the United States as well as within the State and there was none to speak out more boldly and unqualifiedly in condemnation of it than Governor Richards.

As yet no arrests have been made, notwithstanding that a detective has publically said that he is prepared to swear out information against certain persons believed to have participated in the crime.

Let us hope that results looking to the vindication of the laws of the State so impudently defied in Aiken will follow from this conference.

Things have come to a pretty pas in South Carolina when in celebratio of a birthday a gentleman may not in vite his friends—even though some o his friends occupy official positions—to dinner at his home without incurring the half-veiled criticism of himself and his guests through the columns of impertinent newspapers which, through preconceived prejudice, deliberately misrepresent a social gathering as a "political conference."

Newspapers are at least supposed to deal fairly and in truth. The News & Courier's editorial fulmination is sufficient of itself to prove that not al newspapers live up to this standard.

The truth of the matter is that The News & Courier, not unlike certain other prejudiced newspapers, dislikes personally and politically, some o those who were present at Col Gaston's birthday dinner, and dislik ing them and the dinner having been given in Aiken, it must vent its spleen by first dubbing the dinner a "conference" to provide a convenient vehicle for ringing in something about the Lowman lynching. Apparently, in the estimation of the editor of The News & Courier it is incriminating for citizens of other parts of the state to associate with citizens of Aiken, and for the former to accept of the hospitality of the latter is quite unpardonable, although Aiken is not, we believe, the only place in South Carolina where lynchings have occured and the lynchers have gone unpunished. In point of fact, of all the hundreds of lynchings which have taken place in the state in the past, when were the lynchers ever punished? Why should the Aiken lynching be regarded as an exception?

The News & Courier has previously gone out of its way deliberately to offer insult to Aiken and now repeats the performance to fling its insolence at Governor Richards in particular and incidentally other gentlemen attending the Gaston dinner, seemingly forgetting but certainly overlooking the very pertinent fact that the Lowman negroes were lynched during the administration of Governor Richards' predecessor, who, although he made a mighty grandstand play and grew eloquent in promising to bring the lynchers to justice, succeeded only in muddying the waters so completely that his sucessor has found it impossible to get action.

The News & Courier was not inclined, we believe, to deal in insulting insinuations against Mr. McLeod, approving—personally and politically—of Mr. McLeod as it did.

WARNING AGAINST MOB VIOLENCE IS RECEIVED

SACRAMENTO, CAL., Dec. 23.—(AP)—Gov. C. C. Young today was warned by W. H. Washington, Nashville, former attorney general for Tennessee, against the danger of mob violence in the Parker murder case and the subsequent stain that would attach to California's record if such were meted out to William E. Hickman, confessed kidnaper of the little girl.

Washington, in a telegram to the chief executive, said:

"Order a company or regiment of men to Los Angeles to protect Hickman. Let the court or you take whatever steps are necessary to call a special term of the court immediately. Let the court appoint one of the best attorneys to defend him and let him be tried and executed by law. It is up to you to save California from the stain of mob violence."

CHATTANOOGA, TENN. Times
DEC 13 1927
2412

NORTH CAROLINA'S MOBS.

North Carolina is leading the middle southern states, not alone in the building of roads and the expansion of business, the promotion of education and the development of resources, but it is giving us all a moral lesson in self-respect and regard for constituted authority we will fail to learn at our peril.

A negro man, 23 years of age, had been arrested, charged with the murder of a 15-year-old daughter of a farmer near Goldsboro. The slayer was arraigned in court, a mob gathered and threatened a lynching. The presiding judge, Henry A. Grady, sat on the bench with a huge automatic pistol by his side, announcing his determination to keep order during the trial. The sheriff of the county, armed and with a squad of deputies, appeared for the protection of the court, and when one or more of the mob showed a disposition to give trouble, the officer fired a warning shot from his gun in the direction of the rioters, declaring that he was going to protect the prisoner, as well as the court, at all hazards.

A determined judge and a courageous and responsible peace officer did, in this instance, what a determined judge and a courageous peace officer can do in every such emergency, and there never is the slightest excuse when either fails to exhibit the qualities demanded of them by their oaths of office and expected of them by their constituents. There is no reason, either, why they should not manifest such qualities. They have the power and authority of the state back of them, as well as the sentiment and the support of the best elements of the communities they serve; so that, when they permit the mob to have its way, they disgrace the honorable function with which they are empowered and shame the title of "sovereign people" whose agents they are.

TRIBUNE
Concord, N.C.
DEC 1 2 1927

DETERMINED TO DEFEAT MOBS.

There is a persistent determination among North Carolinians to wipe out mobs in North Carolina, and we are getting results. Nothing more convincingly demonstrates this than the manner in which the crowd at Goldsboro was handled Sunday when relatives of the victim of a negro sought to take the negro from the court room while his trial was in progress.

The father and an uncle of the girl, victim of a horrible tragedy, started the movement that might have ended in a lynching, but county officers and the presiding judge were not to be intimidated. They fought for their rights despite the fact that a number in the court room, packed to suffocation, were yelling "Take him!" "Take him!"

Any weakness on the part of the officials would have been fatal. The relatives of the girl were stirred as only a revolting crime as this can stir the human mind. They saw that the law was creating a precedent that the trial of the negro might be a speedy one, but they were not satisfied. They wanted to feel that they had a personal part in the death of the negro who slew the 14-year old girl after she had successfully fought off his attempts to attacks her. In the court house no doubt there were scores of others who would have joined in the lynching had the leaders been able to make a start.

But Sheriff Grant and his deputies were alert. They sprang to the aid of the negro and the sheriff, right handy with his pistol, gave solemn warning when he fired it into the ceiling. Then Judge Grady, presiding at the trial, brandished an automatic and warned the onlookers that he would shooot, and to kill, the next person who made an effort to take the negro.

Soldiers, already mobilized at their armory, soon were on the scene and further disorder was prevented. During the remainder of the trial the soldiers formed a guard about the negro and escorted him to Raleigh after he had been convicted and sentenced to die.

Two days after the crime had been committed the negro had been tried and sentenced to die. It was necessary to hold a session of court on Sunday to make such quick work of the case, but the officials had told the public that there would not be delay and they fulfilled the promise. They said in the first place that mob violence was not necessary and they proved such was true.

Such determination as displayed on this occasion will gradually break down mob violence in North Carolina. Our people, or the majority of them, are convinced that lynchings are useless and horrible. They have been made to understand that the law will handle properly such cases as they can handle as a mob, and they are willing for the court to take this right. Mob rule can be stamped out only by determined officers. Any weakness in the face of the mob and it's all over. But cold steel has a very sobering effect on a mob, and in North Carolina it is getting the results.

FLOGG .GS AND LYNCHINGS

Alabama may have the worst record of all the States in the Union in the matter of floggings, but when it comes to lynchings, Alabama's record is good. There was a time when the annual reports on lynchings showed Alabama in a disgraceful light, but in recent years the record in this respect has been such as to reflect credit on the State.

In view of this, the following editorial from The Houston Post-Dispatch should not be allowed to go unchallenged:

> Mob violence isn't tolerated in North Carolina. For this fact, North Carolina is standing out among the Southern States and is setting some of the others a needed example. Alabama, Mississippi and Georgia, the worst offenders in the realm of lynching, might very well take a leaf out of the book of the Old North State. In Goldsboro a few days ago an attempt was made to take a negro from the courthouse, where he was being tried for a heinous offense. The provocation for mob action was strong. The local populace had became greatly inflamed over the dastardly crime. But when a crowd undertook to gain possession of the prisoner, the sheriff and his deputies surrounded him and protected him. In order to subdue the enraged mob, the sheriff fired several shots into the air. If necessary to repel the invaders he no doubt would have fired into their midst, for he was determined that the law should take its course. The mob was dispersed. The trial proceeded in orderly fashion. The prisoner was convicted and given the supreme penalty, of course.

The editorial has not gone unchallenged. Alabama and Georgia newspapers have called attention to the error of The Post-Dispatch in including these two States among "the worst offenders in the realm of lynching."

The Selma Times-Journal, for one, corrects The Post-Dispatch. Says The Times-Journal:

> The incident in North Carolina in which the mob failed to get its victim and the majesty of the law was upheld has occasioned much hearty praise, all of which is deserved, but The Post-Dispatch is in error in classing Alabama among "the worst offenders in the realm of lynching." Alabama has a record of immunity from lynchings that is something to be proud of. The Tuskegee reports credit only one victim of mob violence to this State in the years 1926 and '25 and none in 1924. It is one of the best records achieved by any Southern commonwealth. Alabama mobs confine their activities to flogging and night-riding. In this particular the State enjoys a bad eminence second to none, but there is very little actual murder committed.

Speaking for Georgia, The Columbus Enquirer-Sun agrees with The Times-Journal in its comment, and goes on to say:

> Georgia, also, in recent years has a lynching record of which Georgians have a right, relatively speaking, to be proud. So far there has not been a lynching in 1927; and if we are proud of the record this year and in late years, it is because this form of murder was once rather common. It is still rather common, we believe, in Mississippi, Texas and Arkansas.
>
> One interesting phase of the flogging epidemic which has visited the South of late is that it seems to break out most virulently where lynching has been most reduced. Both Georgia and Alabama once furnished high quotas to the annual total of lynchings. Both within the last twenty-four months have furnished large complements of victims to the gentlemen who wield the lash. The brutal instincts of society's weak-minded rabble, repressed in one direction by an aroused public opinion, burst forth in another. Yet it must be admitted that flogging is less permanent than lynching in its physical effects upon the victim. Perhaps here is progress toward decency. Decency will be achieved, at least outwardly, when public opinion makes the arm of society's law so strong and swift that no cowardly flogger—masked or unmasked—skulking by night will dare to run counter to it.

All that need be added to this is that the evil of flogging in Alabama and in other States is being put down just as lynching was by an enlightened public opinion aroused to high indignation and resentment by such acts of brutality. Public opinion has made itself felt on the flogging question, just as it did on lynchings, with the result that the one evil is now going the way of the other.

Press
NEWPORT NEWS
VIRGINIA
OCT 19 1927

THE ISLE OF WIGHT TRAGEDY.

When the men of Isle of Wight heard of the brutal outrage and murder of a little girl in their community by a negro, they quickly organized and went in pursuit. Fortunately for the negro the sheriff had hurried him away and finally got him into the Richmond jail for safe keeping. Had the Isle of Wight men captured the negro there is little doubt that, in their indignation, they would have made sure that he would never again commit such an outrage.

The Daily Press has already expressed its keen sympathy with its neighbors in Isle of Wight. We quite understand their indignation and thirst for revenge. Yet it is best that they were foiled in their purpose. It is far better for them, for the law and order of the community and for government in general that this man should be tried in an orderly court of justice; and if the case be proven against him, there is no doubt as to what a Virginia jury will do with him. It is far better for the punishment to be inflicted by the State, instead of by a group of citizens of the State, without judge or jury. Public opinion in Virginia is divided on the subject of capital punishment, some opposing and some favoring it. But all are agreed that only the Government has the right to execute a human being for crime. It is certain that men acting independently of the Government have no right to take human life.

But the point The Daily Press would emphasize, in connection with the pursuit of the negro in Isle of Wight, is that the men went after him alone. There has been no uprising against the negroes as a whole. The whole race is not held responsible for the crime of one negro. Indeed, some of the negroes in the neighborhood joined with the whites in pursuing the criminal, and had he been caught, there is little doubt that the negroes in the posse would have taken part in the subsequent proceedings.

That is the Southern way. We deal with negro criminals as we deal with white criminals—as individuals, holding each person accountable for his conduct, and not the race to which he belongs.

Lynchings-1927
Discussions.

White Press. (Southern.)

2413

VIRGINIAN-PILOT
NORFOLK, VA.
DEC 9 - 1927

The Law Must Reach the Lynchers

How would it be to provide that any sheriff or other officer from whom a prisoner was taken by a mob should automatically forfeit his post? Would such a law help some week-kneed sheriffs and jailers to resist the demands of mobs that usually are thwarted where officials have the courage to stand up against them?

From the Richmond News-Leader.

That would be one way of attacking the lynching problem, but it would have serious drawbacks. It would punish the complaisant or cowardly officer, but it would also punish the honest officer who is compelled to deliver his prisoner by force majeure. Where mobs are thwarted by officials that have the courage to stand up against them, it is usually the case that these officers are either supported by strong police or military reinforcements, or have had the foresight to remove the prisoner to a distant place of safety. Instances of successful mob defiance by a sheriff or jailer unaided by these artifices or reinforcements, are comparatively rare. Unaided officials who are forced by mobs to hand over their prisoners, are just as likely to be brave as they are to be cowardly, and the law providing for automatic removal in such cases would work obvious injustice as often as it would provide deserved punishment. It is not to be resorted to until other expedients are exhausted.

The sounder approach to the lynching disgrace is by way of sterner treatment for those who do the lynching rather than for those from whose custody the victims are snatched. The main effort must be to reach not the officials who prove unable or unwilling to prevent mob murder, but the murderers themselves. That can be done just as soon as the State's conscience awakens to the enormity of an apathetic attitude toward the doing to death of human beings without benefit of trial, but, alas, no sooner. This conscience once awakened, it would be simple to enact laws establishing murderous mob action of any type as an affront to the State as a whole, and as a crime to be dealt with by the State immediately, without any local by-your-leaves. Mob murder belongs in the same category with insurrection threatening the stability of our social and legal institutions. The hunting out and prosecution of those who perpetrate it is a primary State obligation and must be so recognized in law. As long as lynchers are left solely to the discipline of the locality where the lynching occurs, they will regularly go unpunished.

Norfolk, Va., Pilot
DEC 9 1927

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MONTGOMERY, ALA., Journal.
DEC 14 1927

THE LAW TRIUMPHS

A negro has been tried and sentenced to death in Goldsboro, North Carolina, within sixty hours after his revolting crime was committed, but the triumph of legal processes was not accomplished without the display of unusual bravery and determination on the part of those entrusted with maintenance of the law's majesty. Kinsmen of the murdered woman invaded the very courtroom in their effort to take the law into their own hands, and while their frenzy is understandable, an alert sheriff and presiding judge quickly took charge of the situation, the sheriff firing his pistol into the ceiling and his assistance quickly spiriting the prisoner into an adjoining room until national guardsmen could be summoned to resume the trial. The judge presided during the remainder of the session with a pistol lying before him on the bench.

The evidence was presented, the jury quickly rendered a verdict of guilty and the court immediately sentenced the prisoner to death. Thus legal processes were upheld and the annals of the state were not marred by another instance of private citizens taking the law into their own hands. It is noteworthy that the presiding judge at this trial was Henry A. Grady who in February of this year tendered his resignation as grand dragon of the Ku Klux Klan in North Carolina and as a member of the oragnization. He gave as his reason the invasion of the state by the imperial wizard and other national officers with certain statutory proposals which Judge Grady held would be harmful to the preservation of law and order in North Carolina and which infringed upon the constitutional rights of citizens.

Judge Grady showed by that act that he not only had definite convictions regarding the preservation of constitutional rights but that he had the courage to assert them. In the episode which occurred in his court on Sunday, the session having been held on that day in order to expedite justice, he likewise demonstrated his conviction that legal processes must be maintained at all cost if the nation's institutions are to be secure.

It is courage of this kind in emergencies that will do more than any other one thing to put an end to lawless conduct. The promptings of personal vengeance not infrequently cause individuals not to want to wait for the processes of the law, and yet, failure to do so means reversion to anarchy when no one's rights would be secure. The North Carolina incident is another triumph for law which should be heartening not only to the people of North Carolina but to adherents of law and order everywhere, for the example of how it can be done when the emergency arises will steel other law officers to more rigid performance of their duties when crises arise.

NOT A NATIONAL CRIME.

The recommendation by President Coolidge in his annual message that some action, within constitutional limits, should be taken to protect negro persons from the crime of lynching was proper enough, but should have been inclusive of whites as well as negroes.

Lynchings are entirely indefensible, are in defiance of law and courts, essentially evil in their lawless implications and vicious in their effects upon the morale of the communities in which they occur.

Every governmental power and agency available in an emergency provocative of a lynching should be promptly and courageously employed to prevent the lynching, or, failing that, to identify, prosecute and punish the usurpers and outragers of the due course of orderly justice.

These axiomatic things can be freely admitted, but they do not authorize the assumption that the federal government possesses constitutional power to take jurisdiction over this particular species of crime.

Lynching is just plain murder and belongs within the jurisdiction of the state, unless committed upon an American vessel on the high seas or in a place on land under the exclusive jurisdiction of the federal government.

The United States, as such, has no common law, either English or its own, and cannot constitutionally deal legislatively with the crime when committed within the jurisdiction of a state. Hamilton so declared before the New York convention that ratified the constitution of the United States and the course of our national legislation and jurisprudence have always been to that effect.

Hence President Coolidge was prudent enough to qualify his suggestion by a reference to constitutional limitations upon the powers of congress. Thus far every bill proposed in congress to penalize a state or its officers for not preventing or punishing lynchers has encountered that lack of constitutional warrant, and therefore none has been enacted into law. And, doubtless, any such law, if enacted, would be declared unconstitutional by the supreme court.

constitution.
12/26/27.
Atlanta, Ga.

VIRGINIAN-PILOT
NORFOLK, VA.
OCT 23 1927

to go to work without delay.

ERRORS PRECEDE TRAGEDY

The background of the slaying of the little girl near Smithfield Friday night and the subsequent threats of lynching leading to the removal of the accused to Richmond for safekeeping from mob violence disclose errors that should serve as a warning for the future.

Recently a commission in lunacy found that the negro, Winniger, accused of the crime, was insane and ordered his committal to the state asylum for colored patients at Petersburg. Due to the overcrowded condition of the institution, he was refused admission and returned to the custody of the sheriff of Isle of Wight county.

The sheriff, who subsequently displayed excellent judgment in protecting the negro from mob violence, released the man, being of the opinion that he was suffering from the effects of "corn whiskey" and that as soon as the effects wore off Winniger would be "as sane as ever." Whether or not medical testimony would have borne out this conclusion of the officer, whom the Suffolk News-Herald quotes as admitting he made an error in turning the man loose, is not known, but certainly there was nothing to prevent a second overindulgence from bringing on another maniacal attack, although there is no evidence the slayer was under the influence of liquor at this time.

The responsibility or error in the first instance, of course, is due to the failure of the state to provide adequate facilities at its hospitals for the insane for the care of patients committed by lunacy commissions acting in pursuance of the law, which compels the confinement of persons held mentally unbalanced and menaces to the state and community. It is a deplorable fact that the alcoholic and narcotic wards at practically all of the state institutions for defectives are overcrowded, especially since the advent of prohibition, and while the authorities at Petersburg doubtless were within their rights in refusing admittance to Winniger, some arrangements should have been made to prevent a man of his type from being allowed at large or his freedom governed by a non-medical official.

The state must provide for its mental defectives, white and colored, and additional wards for all institutions handling these cases should be constructed with no more delay than will be occasioned by waiting for the 1928 general assembly to pass an appropriation bill.

NEWS
Solicitors NC
DEC 11 1927

AN ORDERLY CROWD

That was an orderly crowd which packed into Judge Grady's court yesterday afternoon when Larry Newsome, negro, was arraigned on a charge of killing Beula Tedder, young white girl.

The orderliness and the quiet, well-behaved demeanor of the hundreds who filled the court room spoke loudly of the deep-founded respect for law and order and the proper course of things which the good people of Wayne county have.

There was not a man in the hundreds who was not aroused to anger by the dastardly crime that has been committed, and righteously aroused, yet that crowd demonstrated its belief yesterday that justice at the hands of the court is the real justice; that the men of Wayne realize that as soon as the facts have been found by an impartial jury of twelve men that proper sentence would result.

How pleased we were that not a man in his anger spoke hotly and thoughtlessly or suggested means of attaining an end other than through due process of law.

The case of a few years ago which brought temporarily at least such calumny upon the name of our county and our city—a case which for a time threatened serious proportions—might have been in the minds of some and have acted as a brake.

We prefer to believe, however, that the temper of yesterday's crowd is based upon good citizenship and the knowledge that justice can be served only in a fair and impartial trial in the constituted courts of the land.

We face what today may bring forth confident that there will be not the slightest move to prevent the peaceful and undisturbed conclusion of the case started yesterday afternoon.

NEWS
RICHMOND, VA.
DEC 20 1927

CAN LYNCHING BE MADE A STATE OFFENSE?

If, as some of the state papers think, it would be unjust to adopt The News Leader's suggestion and to remove every law-officer from whom a mob takes a prisoner, what better preventive of lynching can be had than slow education and local investigation of each offense? These things are desirable in themselves, but the one will not stop this type of crime in a generation and the other in some instances admittedly is a failure. Is it possible, under the constitution of Virginia, to make lynching a state offense in the sense that the commonwealth can proceed against the lynchers at the instance of the governor, without regard for county lines, local prejudices and official indifference? A law to this effect, if constitutional, would enable the governor to use the staff of the attorney-general, to employ special counsel, without asking the commonwealth's attorney of the county, and, if need be, to call out the military without waiting for the local authorities to request assistance. How about that? Would it help?

Lynchings-1927
Discussions.

White Press, (Southern.)

2414

Macon, Ga. TELEGRAPH

JAN 1 1927

Too Anxious to Blame Us

Under the heading, "Georgia Sports," the following appeared in the Baltimore Evening Sun of Dec. 26:

> Georgia came within four days of going through a year without lynching a Negro, but on the night of Dec. 27 a mob at Gainesville broke into the jail and killed a Negro man accused of attempting to extort money from a white woman. One previous lynching had been reported to the keeper of the record at Tuskegee, but the victim was a white man.
>
> In fact, the attention of Georgia mobs seems to be turning more and more to white men and women. The outrage that now has the Governor threatening martial law was committed on a white man, a lawyer, who was whipped presumably on account of his participation in the prosecution of men charged with a previous mob outrage.

It is a well written and interesting dissertation, but its basis is hardly true, since the jail from which the Negro victim of the mob was taken is the seat of the University of Florida and not that Gainesville that adorns the hills of Hall County, Georgia. We have enough upon our hands with the floggers in Toombs County just now to be saddled with the onus of another lynching.

As a matter of fact, since midnight approaches and nothing to the contrary has been heard from Toombs County, no Negro has been lynched in Georgia this year.

TIMES-DISPATCH
RICHMOND, VA.
JAN 31 1927

To Prevent Lynching.

DOWN in South Carolina's House of Representatives a member has proposed about the most hopeful bit of legislation designed to prevent mob murder that has been admitted to the record. Representative Purdy has offered a bill which would empower the Governor of the State to remove from office any sheriff, constable or other peace officer from whose custody a prisoner may be taken and lynched or whipped. That bill is braced by common sense and understanding of human nature.

For numerous reasons obvious on their face, all the anti-lynching bills presented in Congress are absurd. The much-talked-of Dyer bill, for example, is open to all the insuperable objections that stand in the way of Federal regulation of purely State affairs. In addition, it seeks in a blind and stumbling manner to penalize a whole community for a crime committed in that community by a mob, whether the mob is composed of residents of that community or not. State laws prescribing and punishing crimes still are inadequate to prevent mob violence because their enforcement depends on the fallibility of law officers and grand juries and petty juries called on after the commission of mob crimes. The South Carolina bill would go almost to the source.

In countless instances, mobs seize their victims from officers who content themselves with mere pleading and argument or with nothing more than perfunctory resistance. In some instances, be it said to the shame of our civilization, there is actual collusion between officers and mobs. If the bill proposed becomes law and if Governors of South Carolina are fearless in executing it, cowardice and neglect of duty by officers in such cases will be punished and guilty officers will be held up to public obloquy.

It is idle to say that a sheriff or other peace officer should not risk life or limb to defend a worthless vagabond. If a person is in the custody of an officer, it is the plain duty of that officer to fight to the limit of human endurance to protect his prisoner from outlaws. If he is not willing to take whatever risk may be involved, he is not worthy of his office and his oath is nothing but mumbled words. If his oath means nothing and he is otherwise unworthy, then he should be removed from office. And the higher officer empowered to remove him should exercise his power without hesitation.

There is nothing drastic about this proposed law. If a master loses his ship, no allowances are made for him: no matter how mighty the forces that destroyed the ship, he loses his right to command by the inexorable law of the sea. The theory is that he should not have lost the ship. So an officer of the law should not permit his prisoner to be taken from him. In the bill proposed the Governor is empowered to remove an officer whose prisoner has been taken from him: it would not go too far if it provided for the automatic removal of an officer in such a case—without the exercise of discretionary powers on the part of the Governor or anybody else.

Macon, Ga. TELEGRAPH

JAN 13 1927

GEORGIA'S LYNCHING RECORD

In 1926 Georgia had one lynching, and the victim was a white man, and for the offense a long list of mob members are serving terms in the penitentiary, one of them for life.

That mere statement is an editorial in itself. The New York World, the Chicago Tribune and a few other papers of the North ought to make a big to-do over it, if they are as anxious to record favorable things about Georgia as they are to record unfavorable things.

Georgia surely would be happier if it make a note of a lynchless year, but as it did break over in one instance, it ought to be very happy to make a note of the fact that the courts and the authorities and the juries acted promptly and men are already suffering punishment because they thought they could "take the law into their own hands."

Now it remains for Toombs County to give notice to a few of its wrong-minded citizens that it is not the right nor the duty nor the privilege of any group of private persons to attend to the "straightening" out of other persons, and that nocturnal whippings are just something that no county in Georgia is going to stand for.—Savannah Morning News.

AGE-HERALD
BIRMINGHAM, ALA.
JAN 8, 1927

SOUTHERN PRESS AND MOB LAW

In an address at Nashville a few days ago, Dr. W. W. Alexander, director of the commission on inter-racial cooperation, stated that the press of the South could render inestimable service by condemning mob law.

This very thing the Southern press has done, probably since the first lynching was recorded. The majesty of the law and the integrity of the courts have consistently been defended by the press of the South, probably without exception, and will continue to be so defended. Sometimes the press has criticised the judicial processes of the law as operating too slowly and therefore tending to defeat the ends of justice rather than to further them; but always it has stood for law enforcement by duly constituted authorities, as opposed to maladministration by self-appointed agencies. Probably Southern newspapers have been more nearly of one accord on this proposition than on any other.

VIRGINIAN-PILOT
NORFOLK, VA.
JAN 30 1927

Another Mob Unpunished

An Aiken County, S. C., grand jury after inquiring into the lynching of three Negroes taken from the county jail last October and hung, has reported that it had not found sufficient evidence to warrant an indictment. Instead of identifying the men responsible for the outrage and initiating measures to bring them to the bar of justice, the grand jury contented itself with saying that "we do positively condemn lynching, mob violence or anything else that would reflect on the State." Members of the jury asked that this pious declaration be accorded the same publicity accorded to the crime itself. What purpose they expect such publicity to serve is by no means clear. Denunciations of crime in theory count for little unless backed up by determined efforts to discover and punish criminals. We have too many public officials in the South and too many juries that are willing to denounce lynching in the abstract without making sufficient effort to deal with it in practice.

We do not profess to know what evidence was offered to the Aiken County grand jury. But it is said that members of the mob boasted openly of their performance and that other prisoners in the jail at the time of the occurrence made affidavits describing and identifying some of the participants. If there is any truth to these statements it would seem that reasonable diligence on the part of prosecuting officers would have brought to light a few facts upon which indictments might have been based. members of mobs can nearly always be traced when there is a determination to trace them North Carolina's experience over a period of years has demonstrated the truth of this statement. Confirmation can be seen in the identification and punishment of nine men who participated in the lynching of a white man in Douglas, Ga., a few months ago. How long must other Southern States wait to recognize the fact that those responsible for mob outbreaks can nearly always be punished if the will to punish them exists?

SOUTHERN NEWSPAPERS AND MOBS

Behind the local officers should stand an increasingly aggressive public opinion (against lynching). The press, represented by such newspapers as the Columbia State, the Birmingham Age-Herald, the Charlotte Observer and the Atlanta Constitution, has given far more attention to lynching in the last few years than before."—New York World.

Why single out four dailies for especial commendation when practically every other daily in the South has as constantly combatted the mob impulse? The special interest which The World has shown in the lynching evil in the last few months suggests that it is only lately that The World has interested itself in studying the attitude of the Southern press toward this problem. It can find only four dailies to put on its honor roll.

We do not know of a representative daily newspaper in the South, large or small, that has not consistently and more or less aggressively fought mobs. Indeed, Southern newspapers are largely responsible for the growth of popular sentiment against mob rule which is everywhere noticeable in the South. Lynching became a problem after the War Between the States. It is of record that The Advertiser fought lynching from the time that it first developed into a menace, and fought it at a time when public opinion sympathized with the mob—in many instances, at least. But The Advertiser was hardly an exception to this rule among responsible daily papers of the South.

Today, however, it is safe for newspapers, and even politicians, to denounce mobs. It is nearly as safe as advocating crop rotation and supporting the Community Chest. There was a time when it wasn't so safe, but The Advertiser and most of its contemporaries did it nevertheless.

LYNCHING CONDEMNED

South Carolina Senate Approves Action of Governor Richards

COLUMBIA, S. C., Feb. 4.—(AP)—The South Carolina senate resolution condemning the lynching in Aiken county last October of Bertha, Demon and Clarence Lowman, negroes, was passed by the house today without debate or record vote.

The resolution commends Governor John G. Richards for his statement promising to continue efforts to apprehend the lynchers.

RICHARDS IS LAUDED ON LYNCHING STAND

Columbia, S. C., February 1.—(AP) A concurrent resolution commending Governor Richards for his expressed determination to bring to justice the Aiken lynchers was unanimously adopted by the senate today and sent to the house.

The senate also concurred in a resolution inviting L. G. Hardman, governor-elect of Georgia, to address the joint assembly at noon today.

The resolution commending Governor Richards on the Aiken stand, which was introduced by Senator Greneker, of Edgefield, follows:

"Whereas, the recent lynchings in Aiken are a disgrace, and

"Whereas, we thoroughly condemn such acts both as to disgrace to our state and sin against humanity, and

"Whereas, all good citizens of this state deeply deplore the said outrages, and

"Whereas, Governor John G. Richards is trying to bring to justice the perpetrators of this crime, both against civilization and in the sight of God. Therefore,

"Be it resolved by the senate, the house of representatives concurring, That we do thoroughly sympathize with our governor in his efforts to bring to trial the parties responsible for this heinous crime, and do pledge him our cooperation and aid, and call upon the good citizens of the state to aid in bringing the guilty to trial, not only that they may be punished for such terrible deeds, but that our people may be protected against the recurrence of such horrible deeds within our borders."

Eatonton, Ga. Messenger

JAN 7 1927

And while every one else is speaking of lynching, its causes, preventatives, and cures; we might as well get our opinion off our chest. The greatest cause of mob violence in Georgia today is the laxity of our officers, and the delays in justice.

As to the laxity of officers, there is no need to quote any specific examples; we all may look around us, and that means in any of our counties; this condition is not characteristic of any one county, in fact there is room for improvement in most any of them. And yet, in various instances, the very laxity of the officers is encouraged, fostered, and upheld by public opinion. We have known of cases where the hue and cry would be, "Why don't the sheriff, or the County Police do something about this, that or the other?" And when that very person, so voraciously calling for official intervention, is asked; "Will you swear out a warrant, or will you at least get on the witness stand and swear to what you know," the answer quckly comes back, "No sir, you couldn't get me into that, it is pretty bad and I know it exists, but I don't want to get mixed up into anything like that." And so there you go.

No community can expect its officers to keep down petty crime unless that community stands squarely behind its officers.

As to the delays in justice, why such steps have become so common that nowadays every possible delay is taken almost as a matter of course, in fact appeals have become far more the rule than the exception.

We have all just witnessed about as stark a case of purposely delayed justice as there could be. And that is in the case of Wade Johnson. Not one time, in all the list of appeals, pleas and such matters, has there been raised one question as to the guilt or innocence of the accused.

We are far from being blood thirsty, and we realize full well the awfulness of taking a human life. But this man has been convicted of as heinous a crime as was ever committed, anywhere or any time. An outraged citizenry curbed their justly raised ire, calmed with the assurance of cooler heads that the courts must decree and justice would be done. When the trial took place, there were no soldiers present, none were needed. Order was of the best. The only defense presented at this entire trial, was not a denial of the charges, not an alibi, but a few quickly hashed up legal technicalities. And all along during the more than two years time that have elapsed, the only basis of appeal or plea has been some other legal technicality. And when this case was finally carried to the United States Supreme Court at Washington, D. C. the lawyers were very quickly told that there was no rhyme, reason or ground for them being there. And yet, after every plea for mercy has been declined, again this case is given a turn that frankly expec s nothing more than a delay. We don't follow the legal profession, we know, however, if the Supreme Court at Washington refused jurisdiction, the Circuit Court at New Orleans can hardly be expected to take a hand.

And not one time has the guilt or innocence of the accused (or rather convicted) been made a question, but each time some technicality. When our criminal courts were founded they were for the purpose of deciding as to the guilt or innocence of the one accused. For fear that at some time an injustice might be done, other branches were established for the purpose of reviewing the verdict of the lower court, that of course was intended in cases where there was some doubt as to the correctness of verdict. Now, however, our criminal courts are used simply as a clearing house for the preliminary skirmish and then the legal battle begins, with technicalities presented, shot, revived, revamped, renewed and ad infinitum.

And we can't help but wonder if tonight in Jones county there occurred a crime of anything like the one Johnson was convicted of, if there would be a lynching. And then we wonder if such a thing did happen in Jones county would there be many folks in Wilkinson, Putnam and Jasper that would blame the—

And about that time the wonders got a little too thick for one track thinker, and various epigrams concerning ham and eggs, law and order, lawyers and money, Jack and Jill, until the fire just naturally died down and we got to wondering about the temperatures of our virtue couch, and decided to try same.

RECORD FOR TERM SHOWS NO VIOLENCE RECORDED IN STATE

Free From Lynchings; Also Recommends Change in Liquor Transportation Law to Governor Brandon

Not a single lynching has taken place in Alabama during the administration of Governor W. W. Brandon there have been no mobs, no strikes, and harmony has prevailed between labor and capital.

These facts are given particular emphasis in a report just submitted by Chief Walter K. McAdory, of the state law enforcement department, to Governor Brandon. In citing this record, Mr. McAdory, in his letter transmitting the report of the department to the governor, says he is proud of them "more than any other" item with which the report deals. The period which the report covers is from January 1, 1923, to December 31, 1926, inclusive.

Chief McAdory recommends that there be added to the state law enforcement department, at least 20 additional officers; 10 officers added to the regular force and 10 motorcycle officers to be assigned to duty on the state highways. He also recommends that provision be made by the legislature to provide funds for enforcement of the traffic laws on the state highways.

It is further recommended that the statute relative to transporting liquor be amended so as to make it a felony to transport five gallons or more of liquor. That a law be enacted providing that a certain percentage of fines assessed and collected by the several courts of the state against persons arrested by the state law enforcement department, be paid into the state treasury of Alabama, the fund to be used exclusively for the enforcement of all laws by and under the direction and discretion of the governor.

During the period of time that the report covers, it is shown that cash fines assessed as the result of the activities of the department totalled $646,318.83, expenses of the department for the same period totalling $376,425.89.

Within this same period, the state officers destroyed 7,546 stills, 4,789,322 gallons of beer, 54,754 gallons of whisky, 4,875 gallons of wine, 24,193 bottles of home-brew, and 15 cases of alcohol. A total of 12,126 arrests were made; 1,809 for distilling, 359 for possessing a distillery, 6,192 for violation of the prohibition law, and 3,766 for miscellaneous offenses. Property confiscated included 524 automobiles, two launches, a houseboat, 11 trucks, 18 horses, 41 mules, 25 wagons and 19 buggies.

In disposition of cases resulting from the work of the department, there were 8,009 convictions, 443 acquittals, 531 cases nolle prossed, 13 abated by death, one abated by insanity. Cases pending totalled 3,129. In cases where convictions resulted, 986 sentences were imposed, ranging from 30 days to life imprisonment.

The impression prevails in the minds of a great many over the state, Chief McAdory says in his letter transmitting the report to the governor, that the law enforcement department was created primarily for the enforcement of the prohibition law. This, he says, was the case in 1920, but that the statute has been amended so as to include all violations of the laws, "from murder to gaming."

"We are called upon to make investigations for the governor, attorney general, convict department, forestry department, and other departments,"

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II

White Press, (Southern.)

2407

he states. "It is also the duty of the department to investigate the workings of labor agents in the state, and to see that the pool rooms do not violate any of the laws pertaining thereto, and to investigate the conduct of all paroled convicts."

In citing the peaceable and harmonious relations between labor and capital in Alabama, during the past four years, Chief McAdory expresses the earnest hope that the same conditions will exist during the next four years. "During the past four years," Chief McAdory says, "I have seen a marked improvement in the convictions by the juries in the several counties in the state. After all, it is not so much the slogan, 'law enforcement,' as it should be, 'law observance.' During your administration I have had the heary cooperation of the attorney general, the judges and solicitors of the several courts of the state, and practically all of the sheriffs of the state, the federal judges, United States attorneys, United Sates marshals, the federal prohibition administrator of Alabama, and his entire force of prohibition agents."

Closing his letter, Chief McAdory adds: "In conclusion, I beg to state that my entire force desires to express to you, both personally and officially, their hearty appreciation for your cooperation, kindness, understanding and good will."

Following are the recommendations by Chief McAdory, which accompanied his report to Governor Brandon:

1. The statute relative to injunctions and liquor nuisances should be amended to meet the decisions of the higher courts.

2. The statute relative to the seizure, condemnation and sale of automobiles transporting liquor should be amended to meet the decisions of the higher courts.

3. The statute relative to second offenses for violation of the prohibition law should be amended so as to authorize the magistrate issuing the warrant of arrest, or the solicitor in drawing the indictment, to allege in the warrant or indictment that it is the second offense, to meet the decisions of the higher courts.

4. The statute relative to transporting liquor should be amended so as to make it a felony to transport five gallons or more of liquor.

5. I recommend that some provision be made by the legislature to provide funds for the enforcement of the traffic laws on the highways of the state, viz: reckless driving, persons driving or riding on the highways of the state while intoxicated, and the overloading of vehicles, etc.

6. I recommend that the legislature pass a law that a certain per cent of the fines assessed and collected by the several courts of the state against all persons arrested by the state law enforcement department, be paid into the state treasury of Alabama, said fund to be used exclusively for the enforecment of all laws, by and under the direction and discretion of the governor of Alabama. If the legislature will pass such a law, it will not be necessary, in my judgment, to make an additional appropriation from the general funds of the state treasury for the department.

7. The law at present provides that all fines assessed and collected by the several courts of the state be paid into the county treasuries of the state and the state does not receive any benefit therefrom. This, in my opinion, is not right or just.

8. In my judgment there should be added to this department at least twenty additional officers, this addition to take care of ten officers added to the regular force, and ten motorcycle scouts on the highways.

9. You will observe in my report, that during the four years there has been approximately eight hundred persons sent to the penitentiary, ranging from a year and a day to life imprisonment, for which the law enforcement department does not receive any credit in a financial way from the income derived from the labor of said convicts.

Mobile, Ala., Register

JAN 22 1927

ANTI-LYNCHING BILL.

(From Savannah News.)

Writing in the New York World a negro protests against the Dyer anti-lynching bill, chiefly because he does not think it will do any good and, on the otner hand, will actually do harm. He makes the wise statement that the colored people should remember that the majority of their people in this country will continue to live in the South and intimates that the negroes in the North should not be caught on election days by the anti-lynching bill bait. It is well indeed for the colored people to remember that the South is their chief home as a race in America, and that they should endeavor to improve their condition in the South from the inside. And it is well for the white people of the South to remember that the negro will furnish always the great bulk of the South's common labor, and that it is to the interest of the South, agriculturally and industrially, to keep that labor here and contented.

The Dyer bill will not pass; it is more or less a political gesture, and on that account the criticism of the correspondent of the World is just. To keep on making the negroes of the South think some wonderful thing will happen in their favor if the bill becomes law is wrong; it is intended merely to catch the votes of negroes in the North who may be deceived into thinking that the Republican party is deserving of negro votes. No conditions would be improved by making it law. Certainly there is no more reason for interference in state powers in this respect than there would be to interfere in Illinois where state law in some places seems to be exceedingly helpless.

Appeal

MEMPHIS

TENNESSEE

JAN 11 1927

Penalizing the Innocent.

At the last session of Congress certain representatives in whose bosoms the embers of sectional prejudice still glow tried to pass a bill that would have worked a great injustice on the people of every county in which a lynching occurs. If we remember aright, Representative L. C. Dyer, Republican of the Twelfth Missouri District, fathered the measure.

According to its provisions, should a lynching take place, the county in which the mob worked would be liable for heavy damages should any member of the victim's family or any of his heirs bring suit. The injustice of such a law was so manifest that the proposed law was rejected by the more thoughtful members of Congress. Had it been passed, the taxpayers of a county would have been penalized because of the crime of a mere handful of roughians. The sins of the few would have been visited upon the many. Thousands of citizens who would not think of stoopig to take the law into their own hands would have been made responsible for the act of half a dozen irresponsibles who neither have regard for men nor respect for law.

The State of Kansas, it seems, passed a law similar to the one proposed by Congressman Dyer. Just how well it works is shown by a news story coming out of Topeka.

A resident of a Kansas town was injured during the perpetration of a playful prank by others. There was no intent to do him harm, but practical jokes sometimes result seriously. Now the municipality must pay the damages, the plaintiff having won his case in the lower court and secured a verdict in the higher court when appeal was taken. The supreme court interpreted the law to mean that one injured under such circumstances as the prank victim could recover just as if he had been handled by a mob.

Had the perpetrators of the joke been sued individually, the ends of justice might well have been served by a verdict for the plaintiff. But the exactions of the Kansas mob law strike us as being out of line with equity and a rank imposition on those who must pay for the damage inflicted by a few.

The instance, however, brings to mind the old saying that funny things happen in Kansas.

NOT IN GEORGIA.

News reports alleging that a negro had been lynched "at Waldo, 70 miles from Gainesville, Georgia," prove fortunately to have been erroneous.

Constitution

The lynching referred to was in Florida, and the "Gainesville" referred to is the prosperous university city of that name in that state.

Atlanta Ala.

Based upon the news item which was before us at the time, we editorially discussed it as another Georgia affair, in conjunction with the wave of night riding, flogging, etc., that had been sweeping over some sections of this state.

It is to be regretted that mob violence shall exist anywhere. The south has suffered much from its mobs although it is not the only section of the country in which the mob spirit has thrived. We believe the situation is improving. If the officials in Toombs county, and Judge Hardeman and Solicitor Bradley, can round up and properly punish the culprits who engaged in the recent flogging in that county, similar to the way a group of night riders were recently rounded up and given long sentences in Judge Reed's court in Coffee county, we will be making progress in Georgia.

We are glad the lynching referred to as having occurred "70 miles from Gainesville" did not occur in Georgia to add to a 1926 mob record that was already most disgraceful.

ATLANTA, GA., Constitution

FEB 5 1927

THE CAROLINA LYNCHING.

The action of the South Carolina legislature in decrying the lynching of three negroes in Aiken county, in that state, several months ago, and in indorsing the recently expressed position of the executive that efforts to apprehend and punish the members of the mob would continue, sounds and reads well enough.

Such expressions in denunciation of mob violence are worthy and should always be commended.

But why is there not definite action?

For several weeks intensive investigations have been in progress. A mass of testimony was recently carried before the Aiken county grand jury. It returned the curt finding that it disapproved of lynching but "could not authorize indictments on the evidence in hand." And yet one of the state senators, in discussing the matter before that body Wednesday, vigorously declared, in response to a statement of another senator, that "everybody there (the city of Aiken) knows where it was done," that everybody also knows "who was in it."

If that is true—and perhaps to a degree it is true—then there is something radically wrong with the administration of the judiciary system in Aiken county. It is an indictment that cannot go unanswered, or else Aiken county's silence will condemn.

No lynching in recent years was more brutal or created throughout the country a more terrific storm of public indignation. The circumstances, then and since, as alleged, shocked the people of the nation, hinting as they did at organized mob rule, at collusions, and at intimidations of courts and juries.

What is needed in Aiken county is the same militant spirit to break up night riding, hooded lawlessness and the like that was shown recently by Judge Harry Reed and the grand jury and court officials of Coffee county in this state.

If that kind of uprightness and law-preserving fearlessness is made

to assert itself in Aiken county, the lynchers will soon be in the clutches of the law where they belong to be. And South Carolina will have redeemed herself from a stain that is even greater than the stain from the lynching itself—that is, the stain of helplessness from the mob, of capitulation to terrorizing hoodlums who defy law and all constituted authority.

A state senator has thrown down the challenge. He says the lynchers are known. Then is Aiken county in the zone of abandon and lawlessness, or in the zone of civilization and law and order? The county is on trial. It will in time answer those questions one way or another.

SPEECH DEPLORES SPIRIT OF MOBS IN UNITED STATES

Nashville, Tenn., January 5.—(AP)—"The newspapers of Tennessee and the whole south can render an inestimable service to humanity if they will lend their aid in condemning "mob spirit" and later enforcing the machinery of the law to punish those guilty of such action," declared Dr. W. W. Alexander, director of the commission on inter-racial cooperation of Atlanta, in addressing the meeting of the Tennessee inter-racial committee here today.

Dr. Alexander quoted lynching statistics, explaining that the number in the country in 1926 was almost double the 1925 record. These lynchings included both whites and blacks and one negro woman, most of them taking place in the south. Less than one-fifth were charged with criminal assault or attempted assault and many of the lynchings came after the victims had been acquitted by courts.

GADSDEN, ALA., Times-News
JAN 6 1927

PRESS REQUESTED TO CONDEMN MOBS

Lynchings Almost Double Number Of Last Year Is Topic Of Speech

Nashville, Tenn., Jan. 6—(AP)—The newspapers of Tennessee and the whole south can render an inestimable service to humanity if they will lend their aid in condemning "mob spirit" and later in forcing the machinery of the law to punish those guilty of such action," declared Dr. W. W. Alexander, director of the commission on interracial co-operation of Atlanta in addressing the meeting of the Tennessee interracial committee here yesterday.

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Rome, Ga., News-Tribune
JAN 12 1927

COMMENT ON LYNCHERS

Commenting on the rare record established by Coffee county, the Chattanooga Times, which has for years waged an unceasing fight against the lawlessness, particularly in Tennessee, refers to the failure of its own state to bring lynchers to trial. And the Times might well have referred to South Carolina's disgraceful evasion of responsibility in the matter of the brutal and totally unwarranted lynching of three negroes in that state. Here is the Chattanooga Times view of Coffee county's probably unparalleled vindication of the law:

The authorities at Douglas, are to be commended for their faithfulness to duty in bringing members of the mob which took the life of Wright to the bar of justice. What Georgia and other states need is more work of the same kind. And Tennessee is no exception to the rule. For the authority of this state was overridden and its fair name besmirched by a mob a few weeks ago, but as yet nothing appears to have been done by either local or state authorities to bring the lynchers to justice.

In punishing the nine mob members who pleaded guilty, Georgia took her stand alongside North Carolina as a state which is able to uphold its authority as "against the mob." The example ought to have a wholesome effect upon other southern states, where lynch-law from time to time is resorted to by impetuous men who are unwilling to let justice take its course.

There should be a general stiffening of resistance to the mob spirit, and those who participate in lynchings ought to be ferreted out and punished as other criminals are. The must be, if the south's claim to high civilization and religious leadership are not to become farcical in the eyes of the rest of the country.—Columbus Enquirer-Sun.

COLUMBIA, S. C.
Record
FEB 1 1927

RESOLUTION ON LYNCHING PLAN IS UNOPPOSED

Outrage at Aiken Severely Condemned by Legislative Body

HOUSE ACTION DELAYED

Senators Offer Governor Co-operation in Punishing Guilty

Governor Richards' stand on the Aiken lynching, expressed in his recent statement, in which he promised to do all in his power to bring the Aiken lynchers of the three Lowman negroes to justice, already commended highly locally as well as elsewhere, got another word of praise today when a concurrent resolution, commending the governor's stand, was unanimously adopted by the senate and sent to the House.

The resolution commending Governor Richards on the Aiken stand, which was introduced by Senator Greneker of Edgefield follows:

"Whereas, the recent lynchings in Aiken are a disgrace, and,

"Whereas, we thoroughly condemn such acts, both as to disgrace to our state and a sin against humanity, and,

"Whereas, all good citizens of this state deeply deplore the said outrages, and

"Whereas, Governor John G. Richards is trying to bring to justice the perpetrators of this crime, both against civilization and in the sight of God, therefore,

"Be it resolved by the senate, the house of representatives concurring, that we do thoroughly sympathize with our governor in his efforts to bring to trial the parties responsible for this heinous crime, and do pledge him our co-operation and aid, and call upon the good citizens of the state to aid in bringing the guilty to trial, not only that they may be punished for such terrible deeds, but that our people may be protected against the recurrence of such horrible deeds within our borders."

The resolution was read in the house but immediate consideration was no tasked for, and it went upon the calendar for futures action.

SCORING THE MOB SPIRIT.

Judge Hardeman, of the Toombs circuit, interpreted the spirit of the hour in denouncing, in his recent charge to the grand jury at Lyons, any invisible empire, or any organized defiance of constituted authority. 2-28-27

The grand jury had before it consideration of a number of flogging and mob violence cases that have occurred in that county during the past several months. The judge's charge was a ringing appreciation of the overwhelming majority of good, law-abiding people in that county, but a relentless rebuke to those of the hoodlum minority who hide cowardice behind masks and do violence without the law.

In this connection, while public thought has within the past few days been directed back to the foundation of the republic and to the creation of a federal constitution by the fathers, a paragraph from Washington's farewell address should grip the modern mind, as apropos today as it was in those early days. It follows:

"Towards the preservation of your government and the permanency of your present happy state, it is requisite, not only that you steadily discountenance irregular opposition to its acknowledged authority, but also that you resist with care the spirit of innovation upon its principles, however specious the pretext."

The mob strikes at government, at the federal constitution, at the sacredness of institutions. It is an attack that can be repelled only by an overwhelming determination of the people to be unswerved from the truth of allegiance as voiced by Washington 150 years ago.

The Toombs grand jury has already found several true bills.

ATLANTA, GA.
Georgian
FEB 1 1927

BODY DEPLORES LYNCHINGS

Resolutions commending the action of Governor Richards, of South Carolina, who condemned the recent lynching in Aiken and called upon the citizens of his state to support his determination to apprehend the lynchers, were adopted by the executive committee of the Commission of Interracial Co-operation meeting Sunday evening at the Henry Grady Hotel. The resolutions included this statement:

"We would point out also the fact that though 30 lynchings were reported in the United States in 1926, in only one have any convictions been secured, while in most cases not even an arrest has been made. Such conditions constitute a grave indictment of our legal processes, our civilization, and our Christian profession, which we as a people cannot afford longer to endure. We, therefore appeal to the justice, the chivalry, and the conscience of America, and particularly of our own Southland, to put an end to these conditions, once and for all. Lynchings may be the act of a small and irresponsible group, but the persistent failure to apprehend and convict the perpetrators lays the guilt upon us all."

Members of the executive committee adopting the resolution were: Dr. Ashby Jones, of St. Louis; R. H. King, Walter B. Hill, E. Marvin Underwood, Dr. Plato Durham, Rev. W. W. Alexander and Dr. John Hope, of Atlanta; Dr. C. B. Wilmer, of Sewanee, Tenn.; Dr. Edwin Mims, of Nashville, Tenn., and Dr. Joslah Morse, of Columbia, S. C.

Lynchings- 1927
Discussions

White Press. (Southern)

2415

JACKSON, TENN., SUN
Sunday, July 17, 1927

The Lynching Record.

It is highly gratifying in spite of the revival of masked band violence in certain sections of the South to know that during the first six months of this year there was no increase in the number of lynchings, according to the records compiled by Tuskegee Institute. The report shows that during the six months ending on June 30 there were nine lynchings. This is the same number for the same period of last year, and also for 1925. But it shows an increase over 1924. On the other hand, it is a decrease from 1923, 1922 and 1921.

Five states furnished all of the nine lynchings. There were four in Mississippi, two in Arkansas and one each in the states of Louisiana, Missouri and Texas. It is very much to be regretted that all of these are Southern states, but it is, on the other hand, a source of congratulation that Georgia, South Carolina and Florida, that have in the past been the chief offenders in the matter of mob law, did not have a single lynching.

Tennesseans may rejoice that this state escaped entirely. There is no black mark against our commonwealth on the lynching score. Tennessee has had cause in the past few years to congratulate itself that it has escaped mob violence.

Yet we are finding a revival in certain counties of the state of "night riding" and masked band depradations. Two men are under indictment in East Tennessee as members of a masked band of marauders. Thirteen are facing similar charges in a Middle Tennessee county. We are hoping that full and exact justice will be meted out to all those found guilty of violating the law. Floggings may lead to murder or other forms of lawlessness.

With reference to the causes of lynching the Nashville Tennessean very truthfully points out:

"The cause assigned for the nine lynchings bear out the contention often made in these columns that the so-called sex offense is responsible for comparatively few of the crimes of this character. Four of the lynchings were caused by murder; attempted murder claimed two victims; rape, one; improper conduct, one, and in one case the cause was not reported. Even assuming that improper conduct and the unreported case were both due to some sex crime, then we find that the reason that apologists offer for our unenviable lynching record in the South does not in fact exist. Sex crimes were responsible for only a third of the lynchings. Mobs bent on vengeance seldom inquire as to the nature of the crime; they are governed and incited by blood lust."

LEXINGTON, KY., LEADER
Wednesday, July 20, 1927

LYNCHING RECORD

The Department of Records and Research at Tuskegee Institute has just published the record of lynchings for the past six months. There were nine of these crimes committed, precisely the number for the first six months of 1925 and 1926. This is four more than the number for the first half of 1924, but six less than for the first half of 1923. In 1922 there were 30 lynchings in the first six months of the year, and 36 in the first half of 1921.

This is definitely encouraging, of course, but so long as lynchings occur anywhere and in any circumstances it is an evidence that the dread disease exists and that while not so virulent or widespread as in former years may become so again. There are diseases of the physical body which have a similar history, which are for a long while practically quiescent and then break forth with renewed energy and violence.

It is somewhat difficult to say whether educational processes are eradicating lynching or whether it is being repressed by sterner administration of the laws. But it may be assumed that where officers of the law and the courts of a jurisdiction punish promptly and impartially those who are found to be responsible for such crimes against the law of the land and the interests of government this in itself is an evidence of more enlightened public sentiment and indicates that education is improving matters.

In the South there is a more marked disposition to apprehend and punish those who take part in lynchings. In a number of cases convictions have been obtained against those who have been shown to have been members of mobs, and they have been sentenced to prison terms in some instances of long duration.

Just now men are being tried in a number of localities in Georgia for having participated, so it is charged, in crimes against the persons of men and women who have been whipped severely by bands of masked men.

All the nine persons lynched in the past six months have been Negroes. The offenses charged were murder, four; attempted murder, two; rape, one; improper conduct, one, and charge not reported, one. The States in which these mob outrages occurred were Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri and Texas. Two cases occurred in Arkansas and four in Mississippi. In the other States there was one each.

No State can regard itself as wholly civilized in which these outbreaks of barbarism occur from time to time. This does not mean that there are not large numbers of highly educated, refined and humane people in these communities. But certainly if a substantial majority of the people of any community are sufficiently advanced in their social evolution toward the ideal state of human relationships and in their convictions about justice and righteousness mob outrages could not occur. If in every such case the law was promptly and fully vindicated against those who trample upon it, and it was known that such incidents would not be tolerated, crimes of this character would cease.

But there is latent in many communities a feeling more or less widespread that there is justification under certain conditions for these extra-judicial and nearly always savage executions. A surprisingly large number of persons secretly approve of the mob if the circumstances are of a certain extreme character and public feeling is aroused to a particular pitch.

But in a civilized country the mob has no more place than has the thumbscrew and the rack of mediaeval torture chambers or the voodoo rites of darkest Africa. Those who take the law into their own hands strike at the foundations of public order and confess that they do not believe in self-government and the institutions of democracy.

AMERICAN
Hattiesburg Tribune
JUL 20 1927

THE CRIMINAL MOB

(From the Tampa Tribune)

No mob is inspired by any chivalrous thought of defending womanhood or righteously avenging the murder of some popular man. The mob is selfish, doing what it pleases, for its own sordid purposes, exactly the same spirit which a few hours before moved its victim to commit his crime. The mob and the victim are brothers under the skin, whether the victim's skin is black or white. In fact, the mob is an accessory to the crime, assisting the murderer or attacker, although in its ignorance the mob may not think so. The mob, instead of increasing the punishment as the law would, relieves the victim of punishment. . . .

If the mob's purpose were to insure punishment, when it caught a man it would turn him over to the law and use its influence for a prompt and fair trial.

A few days ago a Mississippi mob lynched one man. In the same state a few days ago another man was duly hanged for a murder. The second man suffered more punishment. In the first case the innocent public—society—suffered.

If you ever see a member of a mob, you see one who is a criminal, and probably one of weak mentality.

CLARION-LEDGER
JACKSON, MISS.

JUN 18 1927

LAW AGAINST MOB-RULE

Dangers to State Sovereignty—Federal Lynch Laws—Enlightened Opinion Against Unlawful Methods of Meeting out Summary Punishment—Need of Educational Methods.

Editor Clarion-Ledger, Jackson, Miss.:

The things that have happened in Mississippi during the past year, as well as the uneasiness felt by many good people in this immediate vicinity that mob rule may seize on the people instead of orderly methods of dealing with crime, seems to me to call for collective thought and prudent action upon the part of our people acting collectively. The horrible crime which was recently committed in this community of course arouses men to an extreme feeling of retributive and speeding justice, but there has been time enough for reason to assert itself and we should control ourselves and proceed in an orderly manner to administer justice according to legal standards and methods. The greatest asset of man is his faculty of reason and his power of self control under all circumstances and conditions. Civilization has been builded upon reason and justice, and reason and justice has demonstrated beyond doubt that orderly and thoughtful action is superior to passion and haste. We of the south are facing a crisis in local government. There is a tendency to give more and more power to the federal government. Local government is dear to every right thinking man in the south.

We have serious problems to deal with and we will deal with them properly if all our people will give thought to them and will act with reason considered in the light of experience and in the light of the tendency to withdraw from the states powers whihc ought to be letf to local government. We can not safely ignore the sentiment of the rest of the country.

We are in full control of all the offices of our state government. The white race is dominant and in full control. The courts are run entirely by white men and all of our juries are white men. We have full power and capacity to deal with crime of all kinds by law.

Yet within the past few weeks two dreadful lynchings have taken place. Not only this but the victims were taken from the officers of the law notwithstanding the court would soon convene and try the cases lawfully. Lynching has been openly talked in this county and prisoners have been rushed out of the county to prevent violence. The court will soon convene and these prisoners must be returned here for trial. If they should be lynched under these circumstances it would not only greatly hurt our standing as a state over the country, but it will give the advocates of federal anti lynch law a powerful club to force our local control of such matters from us. It would probably be the means of making the federal government pass such a law. If such a law should be passed there is the gravest danger of its being held constitutional and enforced by the federal courts. I have given this subject considerable thought, and while I think it would be contrary to the constitution, at the same time I believe the federal supreme court will uphold it. I have noticed the decisions of that court during recent years and compared their trend with the decisions of the past and I think they will change in this case as they have in many cases involving states rights in other cases. These tendencies alarm the thoughtful friends of states rights. It has not been lon gsince they upset the verdict of conviction in Arkansas by habeas corpus and annulled by such collateral proceeding a conviction of negroes on the ground they did not get a trial according to due process of law. A very few years ago they punished a sheriff for permitting prisoners to be lynched.

When the infamous Dyer bill, which threatened to punish the whole county by a heavy fine and to punish a sheriff or other officer who held office where a lynching should occur whether he knew of it or not, a republican attorney general advised the congress that the bill was constitutional .I am not certain about it but I believe that that attorney general is now a member of the Supreme court. The senate and house committees on judiciary in the congress held it was constitutional and it was defeated with the utmost difficulty.

The republican party is committed to the doctrine that congress ought to legislate upon the subject. If it should pass and the president should desire to have it strictly enforced they may direct a judge outside of Mississippi to come in here and try it. The federal government is not bound by the state jury laws but they may select their own juries. They are not limited by our laws in any respect. They have an unlimited number of detective and secret spies. Any man who participates in a lynching is guilty of murder under the law, and no time limit exists in which he can be tried, convicted and executed. In such case the president alone can pardon. The president can remove a federal district attorney at will and appoint another. He can also remove all the federal marshals and appoint others in their places. He can put an army in the state if need be to enforce the federal laws and can and will protect a federal prisoner by shooting to kill. There is the gravest kind of danger in the situation. There are dangers that I will not mention here but which will occur to the thoughtful. The federal government is all powerful and we can not resist it. It can place us in a very unenviable position as the history of reconstruction shows. We have the government of the state now in our hands. We ought to be just to those who have no voice in that government. We can not ignore the opinion of the enlightened world. We must live by the law. We ought to act prudently and keep the situation as good as it now is. We can not do this and permit the continuance of some of the things that have happened. Let every good man lend his influence to prevent a blot upon the fair name of our state. Let the agencies that form or influence public opinion consider well the dangers that mob violence will bring to us and use his utmost influence to prevent it. The State Bar association last year published a pamphlet and it was largely circulated in the state denouncing the evils of lynch law and mob rule. Let every teacher, preacher, editor, doctor and lawyer or other people of influence help carry on the work of education. Guilt should be punished certainly and speedily, but it ought to be established by the methods which experience has shown to be necessary to protect the innocent. We ought to be ready to fulfill the duties of citizenship. Lawful convictions and legal executions will do much more good in preventing crime than lynchings. Let us speak out for the public welfare and pray for the right to prevail. We must stand behind authority when they are right with our full power; and we must condemn unfaithful action by our officers when they do not measure up to a faithful discharge of duty. Let those who have advice that lynching do not take place "at present" advise that it do not take place at all.

RECORD
Newton-Issue
JUN 23 1927

LAW RULES.

The negro that committed the double murder in Hinds county a couple of weeks ago was tried in Hinds county court house last Tuesday morning, found guilty by a jury and sentenced to hang on July the 22 just thirty days from the time he was convicted.

The officers took no chance on a mob taking the negro in the capital and called out the National Guard to protect him which was right and proper. When any set of men take a prisoner and put him to death without the due process of law they are sttriking at the very foundation upon which our great goverment rests and every time anything of the kind happens free government has been trampled upon and great injury done to the law and the commonwealth. Therefore every citizen should expect that every precaution be taken where feeling is running high even to the calling out of every unit of the National Guard in the state.

Mississippi was set back ten years when those fellows, under the excitement and heat of passion burned two negroes to death last week. No doubt only a few hot headed fellows started the movement and at an unguarded moment and under the excitement others, probably boys, who when they are more mature would not have it to happen for anything. No doubt now they are wishing that a mighty army might have interceeded and prevented the grewsome deed. Yes, officers should use every means of protecting prisoners regardless of the cost in time and money for a principle is at stake that is as eternal as God Himself.

TELEGRAM
Rocky Mount
JUN 22 1927

LYNCH LAW AND THE SOUTH

Just five hundred state troopers and a barbed wire barricade were needed in Jackson, Mississippi, yesterday, to transfer one lone negro, in safety, from the city jail to the elevated seat of Mississippi justice, to answer charges of criminal assault and murder. A remarkable occurence for a civilized state, and a people who claim, not only to represent the glorious, hospitable, chivalrous South, but to be adherents of law and order.

We hear from time to time that the South, the home of original American aristocracy, is forging ahead and will soon take its rightful place at the head of the nation, but we must bow our heads in shame to think that a man, particularly an ignorant negro, cannot have protection of the courts without necessity for mobilization of the state militia. In the South we admit that we believe in law and order; we believe in the sanctity of the courts; we are willing to support them with our taxes. Still, we have never progressed to that point where anyone is safe from mob violence. Frequently we are forced to read of deeds of violence performed upon defenseless persons by masked mobs; we know that negroes have been taken from jails and killed when, to all purposes, officers, elected by due process of law and under a sacred oath to carry out the duties of the office unflinchingly, have slept.

Have the people of Jackson, Mississippi, respect for their courts? Seemingly, no. The negro confessed to murder of two women and there was not one reason on earth to believe that he would escape the death penalty. The mob will be satisfied if he dies. They think it is Southern chivalry to lynch a negro for criminal assault or murder, or even a lesser crime. Furthermore, the mob believes that the more horrible the punishment inflicted, the more chivalrous the deed. In other words, the South, with all her good roads, with all her schools, with all her industries, will all her wealth, with all her braggadocio about leadership of the nation, has first to learn the principles of law and justice.

The negro problem in the South is one which requires careful handling. Only by education and justice can the negro be developed. We need not hope for a solution of a problem so acute and bearing such added responsibilities when reputable citizens—we take it for granted they call themselves reputable—will not permit the courts of justice to follow its own course.

Before leadership can come, law and order must be established. There must be equal justice at the bar for every citizen, regardless of his race, or creed, or color, before we can expect to build a homogenuous unit.

The state which fails to ferret out men responsible for mob violence has broken it pledge and the right of every citizen not to be deprived of life or liberty or property without due process of law is merely a tinkling symbol and sounding brass.

Lynchings – 1927
Discussions.

White Press. (Southern)

2416

TRIBUNE
Greensboro N.C.
MAY 13 1927

HOW POWERFUL ARE THEY?

Little Rock "business and professional men have been aroused over the recent lynching in that city. They have "passed resolutions" at least, and if their present policy is continued, they may accomplish something that will make lynchings less prevalent in the future.

These men want to know what the officers of the city were doing several nights ago when a negro was taken from jail, hanged and then burned at the stake. Where were the mayor, chief of police and sheriff, these "business and professional men" ask. They are trying to find out and have offered their aid to the grand jury which has been summoned to investigate.

They are offering their services and their money too. That looks like something may be accomplished. In a resolution that offered "to furnish to the constituted authorities any amount of money that may be necessary to aid them in bringing all of the guilty parties to justice."

That something was wrong among officers is indicated in these words in the preamble to their resolutions:

"It was publicly known for an hour or two before the burning actually took place. Practically every policeman was assembled at the city hall. Not one ventured to disperse the mob though Major Pitcock offered to do so and declared that with a few chosen men he could do so. * Neither the sheriff nor any of his men made the slightest effort to stop the mob. The mayor, apparently, with full knowledge of what was about to happen, either left the city or went to some place where he could not be reached. * * If our county and city peace officers, especially those at the head of authority, are found to have been guilty of things set forth above, everyone who shirked his duty and permitted a mob to take possession of the city should be removed from office just as soon as legal procedure can accomplish that end and should be punished to the full extent of the criminal laws of this state.

The Greensboro News expresses the hope that the determination thus displayed by these men will bear fruit. It warns, however, and rightly so, that "resoluting" is not enough. "These are strong words," says The News. "They point to determination and it is to be hoped that they will obtain results. But as to how much of the public opinion of Little Rock they represent it is impossible to discover. It will have to be a large portion. For obviously a mob which is credited in all reports as numbering "thousands" and "many thousands" and which in any event was large enough to convert the city into a corner of the jungle, represents enough of the public opinion of the community to take a good deal of resoluting before it is broken."

Perhaps these men would have been more successful if they had been more in evidence on the night of the lynching. It is true that it is difficult to stop a mob when that mob has the upper hands of the police, but just the same we wonder if there is any evidence that these men made any effort on the night of the lynching to stop the mob or stir the officers to action.

It sometimes prevents another robbery to lock the stable door after one horse has been taken, but the more effective way to prevent trouble is to keep the right sort of men on the door. Troops should have been called long before this negro was ever killed, and these "business and professional" men should see that in the future men of determination and initiative are elected to office.

Sandersville, Ga., Progress
JAN 5 1927

What is Mob Spirit?

The outburst of hooded riders in Lyons county, the whipping and killing of her citizenry is an outrage on civilized people. Governor Walker and Judge Hardeman are to be congratulated on their prompt efforts to stop lawlessness in this state. It is a blot upon the good name of Georgia and should be eradicated at once and for all time.

One might ask, what is mob spirit? It is a radical outburst, unrestrained, against the orderly edicts of osciety; it is a temperamental dam-foolishness that plays the Ego above the rights of one's fellows; it is the cowardly assertion of preponderant power against the weak; it is the spiteful sting of the snake in the grass for having its slumber disturbed; it is selfishness and vengeance blended in disgruntled man; it is Bolshevism in its most repugnant essence; a disregard for the sanctity of law and home and woman.

The mob spirit may as truly motivate in the heart of the individual, the bootlegger, the seducer, the scorner of childish innocence, as it does in the crazed throng that assembles at the frantic call of some super-zealous brigand who would not dare alone to execute the commission in which he calls on his fellows to lend a hand.

It is safe to say that the better element of citizenry not only in Lyons county, but throughout the state, do not condone the efforts of a hooded mob to take the law into their own hands. It must stop and will be stopped.

TIMES
Orangeburg S.C.
JUN 4 1927

New York Lynching

ATTENTION of the New York *World* is directed to the attack made on two members of a black shirt parade in its city on Memorial Day. If was a lynching, but this newspaper will not so label it, nor will the figures on lynching at Tuskegee include them, and no crusade for the punishment of the lynchers will follow in the fiery manner of those directed at the Aiken mob.

AT THE CORNER of 183rd Street and Third Avenue a group of Fascist sympathizers were on its way to join a larger parade but two never got to the destination. One was stabbed to death an dthe other shot to death. Several other attacks occurred during the day and great disrespect for law was shown by several mobs in the City of New York.

WITH HUMOR in the inquiries, we would like to know if the New York *World* will make any strenuous campaign for respect for law in its own backyard? Or, does it regard the killing of Fascist sympathizers a public sport? Does a killing have to occur in Aiken, or South Carolina, to be a lynching, or does the death of two men in New York streets at the hands of an infuriated group of other men come within the definition of a lynching?

TRIBUNE
Greensboro N.C.
MAY 23 1927

THE ARKANSAS LYNCHING.

Durham Herald.

The Little Rock lynching affair a few days ago was one of the most deplorable examples of mob violence that has marred the record of American states in some time. The alleged perpetrator of an attack on a woman was killed, dragged through the streets of Little Rock, the body soaked in oil, and swung up as a torch on one of the city's streets. If any effort was made to thwart the mob in its underaking no account of it has come out in the news. It was stated, however, that the mob was so large as to make it impossible for the police to handle, and that the officers devoted their time to routine duties of directing heavy traffic caused by the crowds around the scene of the blazing body.

It is admitted that the crime for which the negro was killed was a brutal one. It came at the time when the people of that city were already aroused by the most heinous murder of a girl whose body had just a day or two before been found in a church tower. But, even those circumstances which naturally stir the bitterest of the passions still possessed by the human race, the addition of the crime of lynching did not help matters one bit. Mob violence is not the proper method of dealing with crime. Committing a crime in order to avenge another is not in accord with the correct ideas of civilization. Arkansas people cannot afford to let this lynching go without at least an honest effort to apprehend the leaders of that mob. The extent to which the people of that state will be held responsible for that lynching will be determined by their efforts to apprehend and punish those who took part in it. It also might be well to look into the conduct of the officers of the law and see how faithful they were to their trust in the case. No doubt the facts will show that the law guardians were derelict in their duty as well were those citizens who participated in the lynching.

TRIBUNE
TAMPA, FLA.
JUN 11 1927

Mob Rule

Punta Gorda Herald: Members of the same mob who would lynch Levins will go right home and make worst the condition that produced Levins the murderer. Many will pay a friend bootlegger for breaking the law and so obtain illicit liquor with which to appease their lawless thirst. Some few of them would buy dope themselves if they could get it, and hundreds would sell both liquor and dope for the financial profit. Others will argue over the case, get red in the face, and acquire a bit of the irre-

sponsibility that was in Levins heart when his ax carved off innocent heads. Many of them slapped their wives when faced with remonstrations for joining the mob. Were another mob to try their case they would be dragged through the streets, tarred and feathered. Did not a mob lynch an innocent negro just a few months ago at La Belle—even nearer our homes than Tampa? Such is mob rule.

RECORD
COLUMBIA, S. C.
MAY 14 1927

Are Missionaries Needed Here?

In Little Rock, Ark., a mob seized a negro youth who was accused of striking a white woman with an iron bar, attached his body to an automobile and dragged him through the principal streets of the city, then saturated him with gasoline and burned him up at one of the main corners in the negro section. Yells of the mob and pistol shots mingled with the screams of women and children running away from the horrible sight.

The police of Little Rock, outnumbered, stationed themselves in safety some blocks away and directed traffic away from the scene of the lynching.

And we send missionaries to China!—Bridgeport Post.

COLUMBIA, S. C.
State
JUN 15 1927

The Curse.

School children shuddered with horor when their studies of early American history disclosed the barbarities of the American Red Men, those naked savages who had never heard of Christ or humanity or justice or mercy, or in any manner been brought in contact with refining influences of civilization. The highest and most horrible form of savage barbarity was the burning of prisoners at the stake. But such torture was relatively rare. It was for their mortal enemies.

When a people boasting their 100 per cent. Americanism, descended from those who drove the savages from the Indians' country and occupied the territory in the name of Christianity and civilization, openly and brazenly commit such crimes as that perpetrated at Louisville, Mississippi, on Monday, they cannot hope to escape paying the penalty. We do not expect them to be stricken down by thunderbolt or destroyed by tempest; the state of Mississippi, the just and the unjust, will pay the cost of civilization's condemnation.

Two Negroes, "accused of having slain Clarence Nichols, a saw mill superintendent," were taken from three officers, who "shot in the air" to frighten the lynchers, by a crowd of a thousand. The mob paraded their prisoners through the streets of the town, then took them outside, tied them to a telephone pole and after pouring gasoline over them, applied the torch!

And no officers of the law recognized a single member of the mob! In other words, officers and lynchers were hand in glove, as have been officers and lynchers in some other parts of the South, including South Carolina. The "officers of the law"—save the mark!—were either crooks or cowards or both, and the mob was absolute master of the situation.

There is decency and civilization in Mississippi, but it seems without militant leadership. Had gross former crimes been fearlessly denounced by press, pulpit and responsible officials, there would have developed a stronger public opinion that would have reached down and impressed even those of humanity's low stratum that constitute the mobs that butcher and burn. There will never be an aroused public conscience anywhere the press panders to the mob or makes excuses for barbarities. And the land in which there is no aroused public conscience is a land existing under a curse.

VICKSBURG, MISS.
HERALD
JUN 16 1927

THAT JACKSON MOB

The state capital papers are considerably worried for fear there will be bloodshed when the negro Burley, slayer of two, is brought back to Jackson for trial. Front page editorials are the order of the day. They are well written articles, and right of course. But we believe the papers are unduly apprehensive.

It has been stated that troops will guard the negro, and if troops are used in any considerable number no one need fear the "Mob" will get "bad." The history, of mobs shows that in very few cases have those composing them been willing to face danger of getting hurt to get a prisoner. The kind of people that make up mobs are usually cowards at heart and fear personal injury and therefore shun danger. Numerous times in the past a courageous official has stood mobs off and saved their prisoners from violence. A few soldiers at Jackson will be sufficient to protect Burley.

The deplorable thing about it all is that it should be necessary to call out troops in such cases. Every community should be composed of citizens who respect the law in such numbers that it is impossible for a mob to form among them. The day is approaching when this will be true for more and more are people turning away from the sickening horror of lynching.

The latest fine body of citizens to throw their support for law and order in Hinds county is the American Legion. This means a great forward step, not only in Hinds but in other sections where the Legion is taking the same position. The fundamental principle of this noble body of men is Americanism and the upholding of the law, so it is according to their tenents they are stepping forward to offer their services to preserve the peace and prevent violence in all communities at all times.

It means the strengthening of moral fibre of every community in which members of the American Legion reside. No man's life is safe in any community where the mob spirit dominates. It is one of the most damnable evils, destructive to law and justice and fatal to the life and growth of any community that tolerates it.

The lovers of law and order in Mississippi must rally to the cause of protecting the law and maintainance of order. Mobs are becoming too frequent of late and it is up to the citizenship to crush the rising spirit of mob violence.

We feel certain that there will be no trouble in Jackson and that the negro will be tried, convicted and hung for one of the most fiendish crimes that has occurred in the state for years.

COLUMBIA, S. C.
State
MAY 7 1927

Grand Juries and Grand Juries.

Under the caption, "Juries and Lynching," the New York World says:

"In Arkansas after a grand jury had indicted a Negro for murder it took cognizance of mob demonstrations that had followed his arrest and issued a warning that it would take action against any persons who made further attempt to take the law into their own hands. And this is surely a hopeful sign. The weak point in all plans to do away with lynching has been the jury itself. Pass the harshest kind of legislation against lynching, and if juries will not indict and convict, it all goes for naught. But when people know that a jury means business a lynching bee does not appear quite so tempting. This Arkansas jury has probably done more to avert violence in this particular case than could be done in any other way."

Yes, that particular grand jury served the sort of notice that is likely to be heeded within the radius of that grand jury's field of activity. But such action is not far-reaching, since grand jurors are not all alike, and have quite different notions regarding the proper functions of grand jurors. For instance, should a South Carolina grand jury, in circumstances similar to those cited by The World, declare its determination to all and sundry to make it hot for lynchers, there would immediately occur a marked cooling of the lynching spirit; but instead of giving such warning, should members of grand jury slip away to where men are gathering to discuss a lynching and indicate their desire to participate in said lynching, the lynching spirit would quickly develop fever heat. To have two or three grand jurors participating in mob-murder is better than a forehanded promise of executive clemency in case of conviction. It is a guaranty of benefit of clergy. If the grand jury does not indict, the cost of trial is obviated.

There has been persistent report that members of a South Carolina grand jury participated in a lynching. There is a marked difference in grand juries.

CONSTITUTION
ATLANTA, GA.
JAN 2 1927

ANOTHER LYNCHING.

Georgia made a 100 per cent anti-lynching record during the first half of 1926. Congratulations were in order.

We felicitated the state. All over the country the press, especially those few newspapers in the north and central west, that never leave an opportunity to score the south for these and other alleged and imaginary shortcomings, began to commend us most heartily—especially Georgia.

And then the pendulum began to swing the other way. Night riding, "regulating," lynching, mob-murdering, flogging, began in different sections, as if by organized effort rather than by chance.

Now comes the report of the recent lynching of a negro in north Georgia, following closely upon the heels of the disgraceful flogging affair in south Georgia.

At Waldo, seventy miles from Gainesville, "unidentified parties" are alleged to have taken a negro prisoner from jail Monday night, "conducted him to a lonely spot and riddled his body with bullets."

He was 55 years of age, and charged with the exacting of an alleged debt from a woman at the point of a pistol, it is said.

It matters not what the charge was, however. He was in the hands of the law. He was entitled to his day in court. The judiciary system was established to protect society from all crimes by apprehending and punishing criminals. If he was guilty he would have been so found and punished according to law. Either the law is master or the mob is master.

If this wave of law defiance by mob is not arrested at once no power on earth can prevent congress from passing the Dyer anti-lynching bill, or one equally as drastic, and equally as hurtful to the south, and to our time-honored principles of states' rights. The Dyer bill passes jurisdiction over such cases to the federal courts and otherwise tears at the very vitals of our state judiciary system and at our democracy.

Southern members of congress cannot longer brook the tide unless there is a complete change of our present record, which is running at a flood as to mob violence. Surely the law-abiding majority in Georgia can meet and master this situation produced by a minority terrorism.

Lynchings- 1927
Discussions.

White Press, (Southern)

2417

RECORD
COLUMBIA, S. C.
JUN 21 1927

A Sure Lynching Remedy.

For the benefit of other Governors, here and there, we point with more or less pride to the policy of Governor Dennis Murphree, of Mississippi, in beating the mob. Governor Murphree is evidently not a student of the school which locks up the stable after the horse is stolen.

A negro was arrested and is said to have confessed to killing two respectable white women. He was rushed to Alabama, with a military guard in charge of him and conducted back to Jackson under similar guard. He was put on trial with a military guard, warned to shoot to kill if necessary.

The law, under such precautions is supreme, indeed, and it is sufficiently strong to inflict the death penalty as quickly and as surely as any outlaw mob might do it. Moreover, a State that forces such a program shows the world its deep respect for law and order and every State might take off its hat to "Ole Miss" in this respect.

Upholding the Law.

At Jackson, Miss., a negro is on trial for a brutal crime. He has confessed to the slaying of two women.

There was a threat of mob violence. Prompt steps were taken to uphold the law. Guardsmen were ordered to the city to prevent the threatened lynching. The man whose wife and sister were the murder victims came out with a plea a few days ago that the law be permitted to take its course. That was to the credit of the bereaved man. The steps taken by the authorities to thwart the mob were commendable. In the long run, the legal punishment of criminals will do far more to prevent crime than any illegal method could possibly accomplish.

Mob advocates are always in the minority. The conservative, substantial element of a community, no matter in what section of the country is opposed to mob rule.

Proper regard for and observance of the law should be preached from the pulpit, through the press, in the clubs and in the homes. Citizens should be awakened to their duty in the matter of jury service and in supporting the law in every possible way. Officials should be made to feel that the sentiment of the community is with them in a strict enforcement of the law.

A campaign of education, intelligently and energetically conducted, would be the surest way of preventing those things that encourage lawlessness.

Only by upholding the law under all circumstances can the position o the individual and society as a who be made secure.

TIMES
Kingsport Tenn
MAY 6 1927

THE LITTLE ROCK LYNCHING

The lynching of the 22-year-old negro, John Carter, in Little Rock Wednesday constituted one of the most revolting examples of lynch law that has shocked the nation in recent years. The negro was found hidden in a tree in a woodland near the city and surrounded by a mob of several thousand indignant citizens. He was forthwith hanged and the body taken to the negro section of Little Rock, where it was dragged behind an automobile and finally saturated with gasoline and burned on one of the principal business corners.

The negro was charged with attacking a white woman and her 17-year-old daughter earlier on the same day on a country road leading into the city. There was no doubt of his guilt—he made a clean confession of it before his miserable life was snuffed out. He was not a man—he was a fiend, a brute, in the corporal semblance of a man. If ever a criminal's life should be taken by his fellow men, this creature's life should have been taken.

However, the fact remains that it should have been taken through due process of law and by the properly constituted authorities instead of by an indiscriminate mob, and there is little doubt but that it would have been so taken had the law been permitted to follow its course. The action taken by the mob was not only unlawful, it was dangerous in several ways. In the first place it is dangerous for a mob under any provocation to take the law into its own hands, for it engenders a disrespect and lack of regard for laws at all times. It sets a precedent which might result in a very grave miscarriage of justice.

And in the second place such an affair produces ill feeling or even hatred between the races which might very well result in the most horrible race warfare. In fact, race warfare is feared in Little Rock now as a result of the lynching, and troops of the national guard have been ordered by the governor of Arkansas to the scene of the disturbance. It was altogether wrong to thrust this hideousness upon the innocent negro population of Little Rock, simply because a negro was guilty of an unspeakable crime. Of course the other negroes had nothing to do with it, and were tinged with no possible guilt in the matter. Doubtless they deplored the crime as much as the white citizens, and they had made no move to protect the culprit. Such action was as unfair on the part of the mob as the proposed federal law which would make an entire county pay a penalty for a lynching perpetrated in the county. The white people of the South arose in wrath when this utterly unjust law was proposed. Under no circumstances should the innocent be made to suffer with the guilty.

Some time ago a like crime was perpetrated by a 16-year-old negro youth in Little Rock. This criminal was spirited away by the authorities and will be given a fair trial in accordance with the laws of the state. There is little doubt but that he will pay the death penalty in keeping with the atrocity of his crime. It is obvious that such a manner of handling an affair like this is much better for the community in general and for the laws of the land than is an affair like that of Wednesday.

Point of View in Mississippi

BY B. A. FAIRMAN.

JACKSON, Miss., June 16.—A strangely intricate and inexplicable tangle of contradictions is this thing we call human character, with its mixture of its good and its evil facing each other at the same firesides, its contrasts ranging all the way downward from the angelic to the diabolic, from the tenderest of sympathy to the extreme of cruelist savagery. One moment we are exalted to the status of gods by a deed of noblest heroism, of sublimest self-sacrifice done by one of our kind, and the next we are degraded to the lowest rank of demons through an act of human atrocity, some diabolical crime of man's contriving.

Up at Cleveland in Mississippi, a whole community of people mourn in deepest sympathy the death of a lovely young women who lost her own life in her tender care to spare one which her God had given to a brute creature. Over at Louisville in Mississippi, another community of people murmur their horror as they stare at two charred human bodies from which God-given lives had been slowly tortured—pitiless sacrifices to the vengeance of a mob of other human creatures who called themselves "sons of God," made in the image and likeness of the Father.

There are times when these recurring evidences of man's inhumanity to man with their daily toll of tragedy and trails of evil consequences bid us abandon all hope for civilized society. Then comes a Lindbergh to show us we still are men and can yet boast there is something in us of the similitude of gods. Or comes one who can be so forgetful of self and so mindful of the life of even a lowly brute creature as to forget the safety of her own—to tell us the celestial spark of sympathy still lingers in the human soul. Too precious a life it was for such a useless sacrifice; but the tender act which showed the great goodness in her noble, loving heart, shines like a star of hope to bid a crime-sick world not despair of human kind.

The crime of the Louisville mob in the extravagrance of its cruelty was not justified even as an act of distraught human vengeance. Its violence was out of all proportion to the violence which provoked it. It was, therefore, literally inhuman. We recognize that there are crimes which drive men to frenzy, when the victim is one of their own blood and the outrage such as to rouse them to the extreme of vengeance. But others not so involved, must be made to respect the law, however willing they are to degrade themselves and match themselves with brutes.

But we know that the Winston County horror is one that cannot happen often. For we know the great mass of the Winston County people condemn it as does the great mass of people of Mississippi.

Hinds County is now involved in one of these struggles and the contrast between the self contained and self controlled element and the element which listens only to the voice of vengeance is strongly marked.

The brutality which marked the murder of Martha Rees and her sister-in-law, Mrs. O. S. Rees, the amazing fiendishness of the deed, shocked and infuriated the people of every class. But from the moment that the horrible details were made public there was always here a majority sentiment standing for the enforcement of law.

What might have been done by the frenzied relatives had the guilty wretch fallen into their power was a thing which everyone said to himself, "that is no more than what I would have done." Each man realized that it would be asking more than human nature could give to expect these relatives of the murdered women to tell the mob to halt.

But there was the law and the sworn officers of the law, and these officers of the law were entitled to the support of all good men and true in their efforts to uphold the law. A majority of the people of Hinds County and the city of Jackson have taken this stand. Press and pulpit have proclaimed it and civic organizations have promised their co-operation.

Today there was published in Jackson a singularly candid statement which purports to be a manifesto of the intentions of "five thousand" citizens of Hinds County. It is temperate in its tone, but makes unmistakably clear the conviction of these 5,000 citizens that it is "unjust, unfair and uncalled for" to burden the taxpayers with the expense of calling out the militia to "protect such a brute" as Walter Burley, who has three times confessed to the commission of these crimes. It is further indicated that it is the purpose of these citizens to "refrain from lynching the negro for the present," or until the officers of the law have had a chance to ascertain whether the negro has told the whole truth or whether he had accomplices. Burley himself says he alone is responsible.

These 5,000 citizens take the view that there is no need of a trial since the negro has confessed, and that "hanging is too good for him." These men would take the negro from the law and there is no question that they would put him to death by torture. Neither of these propositions can be accepted by a law abiding people. Civilized society has established an orderly rule of procedure for the determination of the guilt of a criminal and has established the particular manner in which the death penalty must be inflicted. Mississippi still holds to the old process of hanging. Some states have even abolished this as "too brutal."

As for the confession, the law itself does not permit the corpus delicti to be established by confession. Men have been known to confess crimes which were never committed.

These 5,000 citizens are no different in creed or class or calling from the great majority of citizens who believe in the maintenance of law under all circumstances. These men are church members and upright men in their business dealings. But they have let themselves get "out of hand." They have not calculated the consequences that must inevitably follow the continued resort to lawlessness and violence. They have not calculated the consequences of arraying themselves "in arms" against the law "in arms." To take the negro from the law they must overpower the law, and in doing this they will cause many innocent men to lay down their lives. Those who must die in defense of the law will have sacrificed themselves for the good of the state. Those who die in attacking the law will have perished in a fruitless and ignoble cause.

AMERICAN
Hattiesburg Miss
MAY 25 1927

HOW DO THEY FEEL NOW?

A lawless mob estimated to comprise two hundred white men of Noxubee County took a negro from the sheriff these same men had elected to enforce the law, and riddled the prisoner's body with bullets. Their victim had killed his landlord in a quarrel over his debts. So they killed him after holding up their sheriff at the pistol point.

Doubtless the negro was guilty of murder. God alone knows. The only way civilized men have of ascertaining the guilt or innocence of an accused is to give him a trial by jury with all the safeguards which the law has devised. This accused had no such trial. He had no trial at all. The men in the mob thought he had committed murder. So they committed murder in order to get even.

According to the standards of the men composing this mob, there is no use at all in having laws on the statute book or in electing a sheriff. We might as well close our courthouses and quit paying for a sheriff. Mobbers make their own law on the spur of the moment and enforce it as they make it, caring little what they do or how they do it, so long as their primitive ideas of vengeance are carried out.

Every man who fired a bullet into the quivering body of that victim of their wrath committed murder, according to the laws of the State of Mississippi, and the laws of God. Every man who fired a bullet into his body lowered himself to the level of the victim. If the murderer of the landlord deserved to hang, then the murderers of the tenant deserve hanging too, else our laws mean nothing whatsoever.

These lynchers of the law of the land cannot plead in extenuation that their victim was a fleeing felon. He had been apprehended by the Alabama authorities at Tuscaloosa. The Sheriff of Noxubee County went after him. He had his prisoner manacled and under guard. The accused was in the custody of the law. When those mobbers stuck their murderous pistols in the face of the sheriff and forced him to surrender his prisoner, they flouted at all civilized authority, trampled on the American flag, and spat upon the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of Mississippi.

This wholesale murder, disgracing Noxubee County and shaming Mississippi, occurred Friday afternoon. We wonder how the murderers feel today? Did they attend Church Sunday morning and join lustily in singing, "Blest Be the Tie That Binds?" Did they perchance help their children with Monday's lesson in Civics and stress the importance of studying about government? Did they brag about Lindbergh's heroic exploit in flying from New York to Paris, and exult over the fact that they were Americans? Do they go to sleep with a clear conscience and an untroubled spirit, or like some of us who were on the battlefields of France, do they wake up seeing pictures of their man-

fully killed. Yet a hundred or more of his murderers remain free to
ght. Others may choose to keep silent. For ourselves, we shall brand
rder as murder, regardless of who the parties are. If such lapses
o barbarism are to cease in Mississippi, it is high time that more
gs place themselves on record.

acled victim shot down like a dog by their murderous hands?

And how do those officers feel after permitting a shackled prisoner in their keeping to be taken from them and murdered before their eyes without their firing a shot? Are they proud of their conduct or are some of them wishing today that they had met force with force, and held that mob at bay, knowing that they had the law with them and a sacred oath to uphold?

What of a judicial system which will let a crime like this go unpunished? What of a state whose citizens fail to go on record so positively that lynch law has to cease? The Mississippi Bar Association has condemned mob violence in clear and unmistakable terms. The leaders among our people have issued signed statements calling such killings nothing less than murder. Yet somewhere along the line we have failed to galvanize public opinion into such a state that a recurrence of these atrocities is rendered impossible.

The American holds no brief for the victim of the mobbers' wrath. It makes no earthly difference whether he was innocent or guilty, so far as the other and more atrocious crime is concerned. The point with us is that the sheriff was assaulted; the law flouted, and a man unlaw-

Lynchings - 1927
Discussions.

White Press, (Southern.)

2418

Shall the Law or the Mob Rule?

At Louisville, Miss., yesterday morning a mob estimated to number 1,000 took two negro prisoners from officers, bound them to a telephone pole, poured several cans of gasoline over them, and then applied the torch.

To further show its contempt for the law, before burning the men at the stake the mob paraded its victims through the streets of the town.

The negroes were accused of having killed a white man the night before. The Sunday night killing may have been a cold-blooded murder, and the two negroes burned to death may have been the murderers. We are raising no question as to their guilt. That is not the question.

In Mississippi murder is a capital offense. There is a method of legal procedure prescribed, and the state law harmonizes with the Federal Constitution, which guarantees to every person accused of crime an impartial trial by jury, the right to be confronted with the witnesses against him, and the right of counsel to defend him.

Every man in that mob of 1,000 outraged the law of his own state and spit upon the Constitution of the United States. This was done in the face of the official "effort" of the sheriff of Winston County and his two deputies, who, according to the story, "fired several shots into the air, in an effort to frighten off the crowd."

That article of the Constitution which gives to every accused man the right of a jury trial is a part of the same Constitution that embodies the prohibition amendment, for the enforcement of which the majority of southerners clamor long and loud.

Probably many of those composing that Winston County mob of 1,000 are rampant in their defense of prohibition and would not vote for any man who advocated the repeal of the Eighteenth Amendment. If so, a little introspection will force an admission of their own inconsistency.

Is the man who would mutilate the Constitution of the United States by illegally trying to nullify the prohibition amendment any less patriotic than the man who would mutilate and weaken the Constitution by overriding and trampling upon the amendment that guarantees an accused person his right to a hearing in a court of justice? Let each member of that Winston County mob answer the question for himself.

The greatest danger threatening the Republic of the United States today is from within, not from without. And this danger is a lack of respect for the law. Lawlessness is gnawing at the vitals of the nation like a cancer. And mob rule is just as damnable a form of lawlessness as is bootlegging, safe-blowing and murder.

Next fall Mississippi is to name a chief executive, who will serve for four years. The gubernatorial campaign is now under way. There are four or five candidates now in the field.

We venture the assertion that not one of these candidates, nor any others who may later announce, but will advocate the strict enforcement of the prohibition law as provided by the Volstead Act for upholding the Eighteenth Amendment, and will inveigh mightily against bootleggers and moonshiners.

It would be unfair to any aspirant for gubernatorial honors in Mississippi to intimate that he is in sympathy with mob law. We do not believe that any one of them is. But, for the purpose of putting the candidates and the great state of Mississippi on record, it would be interesting for the candidates to give expression to their views on the Winston County mob in particular and lynchings in general.

If we are not mistaken, the governor of Mississippi has the power to remove a sheriff for cause, including failure to properly protect a prisoner in his keeping. Whether or not the sheriff of Winston took the proper precautions to safeguard the lives of the two negroes, we do not know.

But the people of Mississippi have the right to ask of each of the gubernatorial candidates what, in event of his election, he would do if in his opinion a sheriff failed in this respect.

These are matters pertaining to law enforcement, not only in Mississippi, but in every other state as well. Either the law or the mob is going to rule, and we must stand for one or the other. There is no middle ground, no twilight zone.

We cannot be true to our professions of citizenship if we put a finger on one law and say that we favor it and will observe it, and put a finger on another law and say that we oppose it and will ignore it.

It is folly for any man or set of men to make war upon bootleggers and bandits in the name of the law, and then individually or collectively give aid or comfort to those who have deliberately set about smashing some other legal inhibition.

We have got to stand for the law in its entirety, not for just a part of it. If we don't, the whole law will eventually go down before the onslaughts of its enemies, and the mob will be supreme.

We are face to face with the issue, and the people must choose whom they will serve.

Voice of the People.

SHERIFF CARR AND THE MOB.

Louisville, Miss., June 15.

To The Commercial Appeal:

I notice in your editorial column that you promise to make correction of any misstatement that might be made in your paper at any time about mob violence, and I would respectfully ask that you give this statement your attention in the matter of Winston County negro mobbing. Your news item of this unfortunate occurrence is incorrect in several instances. And in your lengthy editorial, much of which I heartily indorse, you use these words:

"Every man in that mob of 1,000 outraged the law of his own state and spit upon the constitution of the

TRIBUNE
NEW ORLEANS, LA.
JUN 20 1927

FOR BETTER LYNCHINGS

COMPETENT critics of lynchings have long been dissatisfied with the quality of the Mississippi performances, and it has even been suggested that these spectacles be abandoned. These captious persons charge that the lynchings which have been put on in Mississippi have lacked the awful dignity and nobility that should pertain to an act of solemn justice. They even charge that the justicial orgies have been too impromptu. It has often been difficult to obtain seats.

But Mississippi has not wished to cast away lightly a tradition. It is gratifying to see that at least a movement has been started which may be expected to result eventually in bigger and better lynchings which will satisfy those who have found fault with the old rough-and-ready affairs.

Press dispatches from Jackson and Natchez in the past few days have revealed the coming of the new order. The first dispatch, which told of the high state of feeling about one Walter Burley, who had been proposed as the central figure in a lynching, said that several thousand persons, assembled in a mass meeting, had pledged themselves "99 percent," not to lynch Burley "at present." The other dispatch, from Natchez, revealed that an organizer had visited that city to enlist recruits for the Burley lynching.

These dispatches are most pleasing, for they indicate clearly that American business methods and efficiency will hereafter come to be applied to lynchings. The old hit-or-miss system by which a man might be lynched or might not will disappear, and we may expect to see these spectacles handled by skilled men who know how to get out the crowd and how to make the victim squirm. Then one will know just when a lynching is coming off, and will be able to reserve seats in full view of the central tree or telegraph pole, with amplifiers at suitable stations so that no one need miss the exact words of the choking victim's last plea as he is strung up, a matter which has caused considerable annoyance under the present system. The organizers will naturally take a certain percentage of the gate, which should be particularly large for stake-burnings.

AGE-HERALD
BIRMINGHAM, ALA.
JUN 22 1927

Mob Violence

The year 1927 threatens to present the blackest record within the last decade, if mob violence continues at its present rate, says The Houston Post-Dispatch. And then this Texas journal, pointing to Florida, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi and its own state as scenes of law defiance, asks the following pregnant questions:

What are the states where these outrages occurred going to do about

it? Make a bluster about bringing the criminals to justice and then forget about them, as South Carolina did in the case of the Aiken lynchings, or send the whole of the bands to prison, as did North Carolina in two instances last year?

Speaking for Alabama, if this paper may, The Age-Herald believes that the treatment of the Shades Mountain floggings will be thorough and satisfactory. Its reason for this conviction is that the public is showing a profound interest in the outcome of the legal proceedings in the premises. Even if officials were inclined to tread softly, the attention concentrated on this case would permit no lack of zeal in the prosecution of all persons responsible for the attack.

TIMES-DISPATCH
RICHMOND, VA.
JUN 15 1927

AMERICANS like to think of the United States as an enlightened nation where reason and law hold sway. But the United States is cursed with a peculiarly vicious form of lawlessness, that of organized murder. There is no section of the country which is wholly free from this type of lawlessness, although in different regions it assumes different forms. The organized gangs of New York and Chicago and other large Northern cities who make murder a side line of their professions of robbery and bootlegging are well known throughout the country. The gang warfare in lower and rural Illinois has been detailed in every newspaper in the country.

The South is nearly free from the gang-warfare form of organized murder, but it is not free from organized murder. Nor can the form which it assumes in the South be excused. The South participates in this lawlessness of organized murder usually in the form of lynchings. At this particular time there seems to be an outbreak in this region of lynching or of situations which lead to this crime.

In one day there appear accounts of a mob of 100 persons from Mississippi on its way to storm an Alabama jail which houses a man who committed a crime in Mississippi, and another account of a Mississippi mob of 1,000 which held up a deputy sheriff and two officers, relieved them of their prisoners and burned their victims at the stake. Yet nowhere in these two accounts of the actions of Mississippi mobs is there mention of the "usual crime" which in the minds of some mitigates the crime of such lynchings.

The two prisoners were charged with killing an unarmed mill superintendent as the result of an argument. They had just been apprehended and were being taken to Jackson for safe keeping. Despite the futile protests of the officers and the futile firing of pistols into the air by them, the prisoners were taken from their guards. They were paraded through the streets of Louisville, Mississippi. "As daylight neared" they were taken out of town, tied to a telephone pole, saturated with gasoline and set on fire. The affair must have been well covered by the reporter, for it is stated that the screams "probably touched one of the members of the mob who was said to have attempted to extinguish the blaze, but was seized by others and pushed back."

A more perfect and more hideous example of organized murder in the form of the lynching party cannot be found. If the prisoners had shot to death an unarmed man, as is reported, they could have been tried and executed as quickly as the courts in the section saw fit. But these men were not given the first hearing nor were they merely executed upon apprehension. They were first paraded and then they were tortured in the most horrible of all deaths—burning at the stake.

Enlightened and lawful America faces a problem. This problem is to break up the organized and professional murderers of the populous sections of the country and the temporary but organized murderers who take part in lynchings. The dignity and honor of the State of Mississippi are challenged. If the State vigorously and successfully prosecutes members of this mob, it will place itself far in advance of some of its neighbors.

Star
WILMINGTON
NORTH CAROLINA
APR 29 1927

A STUDY IN GEOGRAPHY.

Now the South according to Northern critics, is that section of the country where they lynch people, particularly Negroes, and for a wide variety of offenses. It is the section toward which metropolitan newspapers head their star reporters when they hear an inkling of possible mob violence, and against which humane Senators form such constructive pieces of legislation as the DYER Anti-Lynching Bill.

New York on the other hand is located in the precise center of civilization, where the law is supreme, and where metropolitan reporters of the star grade, seldom appear at Police Courts unless there is a society murder to unravel.

That is the first equation, now for the second.

Three days ago a New York Negro went on a rampage. He slashed two men of the East Side and when a policeman sought to stop his party, he proceeded to carve up the officer, but was finally subdued.

Before the officer could marshal his prisoner into an ambulance, the rumor spread that the Negro had knifed several children. When the ambulance arrived it was surrounded by a howling mob of several thousand, all bent on wreaking summary vengeance upon the slasher.

Police reserves clubbed a way through the mob and transported the prisoner to safety.

As a footnote, emphasis should be laid upon the fact that the prisoner was not guilty of the offense which aroused the ire of the populace.

Now, let's see. It has been seven years since a mob was that close to a lynching in the Southern State of North Carolina.

NSUMING FIRE

Lynchings- 1927
Discussions.

White Press. (Southern)

2419

JOURNAL
FRANKFORT, KY.
JUN 23 1927

GOOD FOR MISSISSIPPI.

In protecting Walter Burley, a negro who is charged with having killed three white women, the State of Mississippi did much to offset the disgrace of the burning of two negroes alive near Louisville a few days ago. The victims in the Louisville case were not charged with an offense against a woman, and were not known to have been guilty of any crime. They were taken from peace officers, easily, and after their clothing had been soaked with gasoline they were made into human torches. A ghastlier crime than that of the Mississippi mob hardly can be imagined.

Smarting under the deserved criticism which the Louisville lynching occasioned, the Mississippi state government determined, evidently, to make a good record in the case of the negro Burley. That it has made a record only goes to show that it is perfectly practical to prevent lynchings in all celebrated cases if the state makes up its mind to prevent them.

News
CHARLESTON
SOUTH CAROLINA
JUN 29 1927

Extending Comfort to Lynchers

Bruce Bliven, one of the editors of The New Republic, a New York city publication, is fervidly concerned about the Sacco-Vanzetti case, a Massachusetts case, and he has written another interesting article about it. "Boston's Civil War" is his headline. Mr. Bliven has talked with these two men under condemnation, he is quite convinced that they are innocent (what could a jury have known about it?), and he says that the majority of Boston's "upper class" would have the poor fellows executed. To prove it he sets out arguments, this one among them:

"There is, item, the overwhelming demand that 'outsiders' shall not interfere in the case, a demand which comes exclusively from those who support Judge Thayer. On the day that I arrived in Boston, for example, Mr. John C. Hull, speaker of the Massachusetts House of Representatives, in an address at a banquet of 'best citizens,' voiced what he said is the State's demand of all outsiders: 'We would respectfully ask you to mind your own business.' Whereupon, according to the newspaper reports, the 750 persons present leaped to their feet and burst into a storm of applause. Shortly before this, the Braintree Board of Trade wrote to Governor Fuller: 'We are opposed to outside agencies and influences interfering with the liberties and institutions we enjoy.' Numerous letters have appeared in the press similar to that of Mr. Alfred S. Hewins, who observed in the Evening Transcript: 'To what a pass have we come in the Commonwealth if we cannot say who is guilty or who is not guilty of breaking the laws.'"

That these are opinions of the men of Massachusetts is not astonishing. Were this a South Carolina case and a pack strung over the hills and valleys from New York to San Francisco were in full cry against the courts, it is pretty certain that many South Carolinians would forget entirely the case itself as they rallied to the defence of the State. "If you permit the verdict of your jury and the sentence of your court to be carried out, you, the people of Massachusetts, are a bloody-minded and murderous race of capitalists," in substance Mr. Bliven tells these people, and he is one of thousands of "outsiders" saying such things. Perhaps if the Blivens would keep quiet, the people of Massachusetts might think about Sacco and Vanzetti, but that they can hardly do while the uproar goes on, while Massachusetts is being arraigned.

When a man is accused of murder in one of the United States practice is for that State to try him for it—in some States, sometimes, (Massachusetts is not one of them) to lynch him for it. Shall newspapers and magazines, of other States, overpower Massachusetts, taking away its "State right" of trial for murder also?

If the impression shall be created abroad that the courts of Massachusetts are no better than Southern lynching parties, the people of Massachusetts may conclude that something is to be said for lynching after all. That is the phase of the matter that interests The News and Courier—those who labor year after year to build up respect for law and the courts scarcely are encouraged at the spectacle of legal procedure of an American State denounced not less harshly than a lynching party in South Carolina would be by the same set of denouncers.

Mr. Bliven's article dangerously approaches lynching propaganda.

TIMES-PICAYUNE
NEW ORLEANS, LA.
JUN 15 1927

Bad Business

THE burning of two negroes by a Mississippi mob is the worst advertising that state or any other could be cursed with, in this day and time. Savagery of the type reported from Louisville, Miss., no longer finds condonation, nor even secret sympathy, among people who believe in an orderly government under the laws made and provided by and for civilized society. The crime of the mob in this Mississippi case lacked even the common or garden variety of "color of justification." The tortured negroes were charged with the killing of a white man. Granting their guilt, their prompt conviction and adequate punishment in the courts was a certainty. No fear of their escape from justice prompted the mob-murder. Justice was outraged by members of the very race that are under direct and peculiar obligation, in this country and section, to defend and uphold their own orderly justice.

This revolting mob excess that will shock the country closely follows the frustration of another mob attempt in Mississippi provoked by a far more revolting crime than was perpetrated by the mob victims in Winston county. In that earlier instance the officers of justice successfully defended their prisoner, who will presently pay the legal penalty for his crime. Perhaps that earlier balking of the mob spirit contributed indirectly to the later mob atrocity. In any case the Louisville horror should produce a swift and wholesome reaction in Mississippi, whose citizens of light and leading are battling valiantly in defense of Mississippi justice against mob outrage and mockery. Many Mississippians who have deprecated such lawlessness without openly enlisting in the fight to prevent it must be shocked by this latest savagery into realization that in this struggle against the wild animal known as "mob justice" there should be no neutrals or noncombatants. Law-loving Mississippians startled by this display of savagery should enroll, fearlessly and openly, with the Mississippi leaders and forces that are striving to end it and to establish firmly, throughout their state, the reign of orderly justice under the laws set up by Mississippi's white civilization, and to whose obedience every white citizen of that commonwealth is obligated by his citizenship and membership in the lawmaking race.

TIMES
ROANOKE, VA.
JUL 22 1927

Evidently the commonwealth did not have a case against Floyd Willard, who was acquitted yesterday of complicity in the murder of Raymond Bird, lynched near Wytheville in August, 1926. No dereliction can be charged against the court, against the jury or against the governor. It is to the credit of Virginia that a special investigation of the hideous Wytheville lynching was made.

The News Leader does not believe, however, that the inquiry in Wythe County should be dropped simply because Willard was acquitted. Quite probably for the present, all those who had a hand in the lynching will continue close-mouthed. No evidence justifying a presentment may now be procurable. But a man who is base enough to share in a lynching is base enough to boast of it. Sooner or later a good part of the population of Wythe County will know the names of some of those who were in the party that killed the negro and then shamelessly dragged his body through the streets of the town behind an automobile. Six months hence, a good detective can go into Wythe county, remain a few weeks and probably find out enough to act upon. If he fail then, he may succeed in 1928. The governor of Virginia ought to keep this and every other lynching as items of unfinished business, and inquiry ought never to lapse until some of the guilty murderers are put in the penitentiary. No statute of limitations runs against prosecutions for murder. No limitation should be set on the probe of this one.—Richmond News-Leader.

Daily Mercury Ala
JUN 17 1927

JACK[illegible] CITIZENS MUST SHOW COUR[illegible] TO SUPPORT THE LAWS.

The communication addressed to the people of Jackson and vicinity by O. S. Rees, husband of one victim and brother of the other, asking that the law be permitted to take its course ,with Walter Burley, negro, confessed slayer of the two white women, should give encouragement to the people of that Mississippi city in their effort to uphold the law.

Mississippi lately has occupied an unenviable position as the result of mob outbreaks. Bloodshed at Jackson could do no good. A legal hanging would be far more impressive as a deterrment for other law-breakers.

Mobs never accomplish anything beneficial. Far better is it to permit the law to take its course, especially when the courts show their ability to function speedily and with justice, as they are doing in this instance in Mississippi.

Journal
SHREVEPORT
LOUISIANA
JUN 9 1927

JACKSON'S PROBLEM.

The approaching trial of a negro slayer, confessed killer of two white women, one of whom was outraged, gives Jackson, Miss., one of the most serious problems it has ever confronted in connection with law enforcement. This is because of the intense feeling provoked by the double crime, resulting in formation of a mob and efforts to get hold of and wreak violence upon the negro. In order to uphold the law and defend the name of their state, officials eluded the mob and spirited the prisoner away to another state, where he is being held temporarily. But within a few weeks he must be returned to Jackson for trial.

In view of the indignation that has been aroused, the authorities, no doubt, realize they will have their hands full preventing a lynching. But plans are being laid toward preventing any lawlessness. If necessary the militia will be mobilized and a section of the city, embracing jail and courthouse, will go under martial law. With precautions of this kind prevailing, the state will be saved the stain of another crime.

No punishment, of course, is too severe for this fiend. But lynching is not the proper method to use in bringing him, or any other criminal, to justice. Lynching would be for the state to be guilty itself of crime. It would be an attack upon constituted authority, and would encourage disrespect for law, without which no people is safe from disorder and degradation.

The authorities realize the importance of prompt punishment of the negro, and are sparing no effort in trying to have his case disposed of without unnecessary delay. Law-abiding citizens should support them in this effort.

Times
Selma - Ala.
JUN 28 1927

The Jackson, Miss., judge who closed the doors of his court to the newspaper men during the trial of the Burley negro lest their reports would be made too inflammatory and colorful showed a deficient conception of the functions and resourcefulness of the press. The newspaper men found out the proceedings to the minutest detail and published them. There were no riots or uprisings. The blood-curdling features of the crime were published two weeks ago.

HERALD
Carrollton, Ala
MAY 26 1927

Does Mob Violence Deter?

There is no excuse for mob violence anywhere, specially in Alabama or any part of the south. Such acts reflect on the community county, state and the whole southland. It retards development, breeds crime, incites criticism. It is a deplorable fact that in the United States, the land of freedom and democracy, the greatest republic on earth, this evil is many times greater than in any other civilized country. Every time a human being is lynched, the whole social fabric is stained with blood, greatest in the community where the crime is committed, next in the county, next the state, and last the great republic—but all are affected. Just as an ounce of strichnine will poison a whole lake of pure water, so will the crime lynching effect the social and moral standing of a great nation.

Whenever a crime is committeed in the South that justifies a punishment by death, there awaits an open court with its grand and petit juries, its faithful officers and honorable judges ready to act immediately on the case and mete out justice to the criminal without delay. If such was not the case, there might be some semblence of justification in lynching in some cases, but not till the courts have failed.

The man who is party to a mob that takes human life is guilty of murder in the first degree, and under the law is subject to life imprisonment or the death penalty. How many men who enter into such a crime ever thinks for one moment of the seriousness of the crime? Not one! If they did, there would be no more lynching. It is a crime in the sight of the law, it is a crime in the sight of God. It brings disgrace to a community and state; it brings dishonor and damnation to mankind.

But, some wll argue, it deters repetition of such crimes. It will prevent that particular person from such crimes, but will it prevent others? Not on your life! When a human being falls into the hands of an angry mob and is lynched, it leaves in the hearts of his relatives, friends and sympathizers an extreme hatred toward the parties to the crime, and sworn vengence may sooner or later be expected. The human race is everywhere alike. If the old law "An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth," must prevail, some relatives or sympathizer, will some day, somewhere, somehow, revenge the wrongs of his friend or relative. Not so, when the law takes its course, when the criminal is convicted and hanged. Every human being submits to the verdict of a jury when a fair trial has been given, and the end of the law is satisfactory.

It is authoratively reported that both the father and grand father of B. Andrews, the negro who recently killed young Tommy Edwards in Noxubee county, Miss., committed the same crime, each killing a white man, and each dying at the hands of an angry mob. Did the fate of the grand father deter the father? Did the fate of the father deter the act of the son? No. But how do we know that it did not create in the others the determination to revenge the death of the father?

There are times and conditions when the anger of any man may be aroused to the point of taking human life, on the spur of the moment without time to reflect, but with time to cool and reflect, every man should be able to control himself, and by so doing, be able to control others. One cool level headed man can control a mob, while one wild fool can set a mob on like raging wolves.

We do not uphold crime in any sense of the the word. We regret that young Edwards met such an untimely fate, and would do all in our power to bring the criminal before a court of justice and see that proper punishment was meted out to him, and that he paid the penalty he so greatly deserved. We do not believe in matching crime with crime. That is the law of the jungles. We are supposed to be the most highly civilized people in the world, and law abiding, therefore we should live above such crime.

Lynchings-1927
Discussions

Negro Press (Southern).

2420

TEXAS ASSUMES LEAD IN LYNCHING LEAGUE RACE!

Having lost out during the hectic season of 1926 for the championship of the Lynching League of America, Inc., Texas seems determined to cop the 1927 gonfalon of this celebrated loop, and has gotten off to a running start.

The lynching bee at Conroe, Texas, last week, was another dark spot on the pages of Christian civilization, and the indifferent and apathetic attitude assumed by those in positions of official authority, will certainly prove an incentive and stimulant to Judge Lynch's circuit in this state.

No attempt was made by the officers, in whose custody the colored prisoner was, to protect him from the howling and hungry mobocrats and exponents of the famous American pastime; and it is reported that the sheriff of Montgomery County (of which Conroe is the county seat) had given specific instructions to his deputies "not to hurt anybody or get hurt" in their effort to transfer the accused colored man, overland in an automobile, from said county to the state penitentiary at Huntsville.

In other words, the peace officers of Montgomery County were given to understand, by inference or implication, that if a mob sought to take this black prisoner and by so doing, trample the majesty of the law under their profane feet, these officers, whose sworn duty it is to protect prisoners and uphold the law at any hazard, were simply to turn him (the black man) "peacefully" over to the members of the "neck-tie" party!

After the lynching orgy, certain county officers were reported as saying that no investigation would be made; that the community was in sympathy with the mob and that the victim merely got what he deserved, or words to that effect.

Mind you, the accused black man had not committed the "usual crime" of "rape" upon some white woman, nor had he attempted such bestial attack; but he was accused of having attacked and seriously wounded a white man, under circumstances that have not particularly been aired or disclosed.

As long as the residents of any community will condone, encourage and nod assent at such overthrow of constituted authority and reversal to savagery and barbarism, mob-violence will continue to remain the most popular sport in America, and each succeeding year we shall witness a heated and gruelling race between the teams composing this organization, for titular honors of Judge Lynch's league.

Contrast the reported attitude of the sheriff of Montgomery County with the sheriff of Harris County, who transferred a colored prisoner from Houston to the penitentiary at Huntsville for safekeeping, because he had heard talk of an attempt to lynch the accused black Houstonian, and our sheriff stated that he took such precautions because he did not want to see anybody hurt—meaning that an attempted mob attack would have met armed resistance from him and his deputies.

Furthermore, the Harris County sheriff states that, in carrying his prisoner overland to Huntsville in an automobile, he drove through the Montgomery County mob, and he was not even molested.

Just what action Governor Dan Moody will take in the Conroe lynching, remains to be seen; for the community, judging from newspaper reports, seems to be favorable towards the members of the mob, and in perfect accord and harmony with such mobocratic demonstrations.

If federal legislation can be enacted and enforced that will at least outlaw the members of the teams in the Lynching League, even if the practice is not completely obliterated from the confines of this republic, some appreciable headway will have been made towards making and rendering some of the mobocratic communities safer places in which to live and enjoy some constitutional and inalienable rights.

AIKEN GRAND JURY FAILS TO INDICT LYNCHERS

Negroes of this country are surely being forced to conclude that the influence of the law abiding white people of this country and especially of the South counts for very little or that there are no law abiding white people. They can come to no other conclusion in the face of repeated cases of lynching and murder in which human beings are done to death most savagely by mobs and no prosecutions follow. Leading newspapers regularly 'denounce' these crimes. Governors deplore them in public print. Leading citizens make suitable statements concerning them but grand juries either do not get "sufficient evidence to indict" or they get no evidence at all. Georgia received a great deal of credit a few months ago when a white man was lynched and his lynchers were given prison terms. But every Negro in America realizes that there would have been nothing done had the victim been black.

Take Aiken. Here is a plain case of the most dastardly kind of mob murder. If there is any such thing as degrees of brutality in mob murders, here was a case of the most dastardly sort. Two men and a woman, brought back for a more fair trial than they had received before, taken from a sheriff, almost declaredly with his permission and mobbed. Names of those participating in the lynching were secured together with sworn affidavits and yet the grand jury does nothing. A governor in passing from office conveniently had opportunity to "pass the buck" to his successor who orders a thorough probe. But there are no indictments.

Upon what evil days has America fallen. For what does she hope in the face of this continued outrage? How can the law have any majesty as long as such conditions exist? What of the future under such conditions? The seriousness of the American affairs in Nicaraugua and in China are as nothing as compared to the actual condition in which millions of American citizens at home are living each day. Murder, rapine, crime, conspiracy, all are as rampant within the actual confines of the country itself as though there were no law. And in fact there is no law as far as Negroes are concerned. Had these victims been white some action would have been taken though there is grave doubt as to its severity. And yet, there is supposed to be a powerful public opinion in this country which directs its destinies. The great white race has leaders and those who are pointed out as among the stalwarts live in the south. They declare their belief in the majesty of the law. They prate frequently and loudly about being the best friends of the Negro. They declare that they do not believe in mob murder. But there the matter rests. How can Negroes but come to the conclusion that they are either not in earnest in their stateness or that they have no weight in the communities in which they reside. Surely the Negro in the south is coming to the conclusion that the influence of the law abiding white people is of little account or that there are no law-abiding white people. The Aiken case is but another of a large number of such [illegible]

Our esteemed contemporary, Brother Richardson, has been guilty of stepping off on the wrong foot. He takes this scribe to task for his failure to mention the very important fact that the National Negro Business League to meet in Dallas this summer. For the information of Brother Richardson who evidently does not read his [illegible] closely, we might state that the League will meet this year in St. Louis.

in such cases impossible. Who can tell but that as the news of this occurrence is broadcast, all of the sister states of the south will not find it advisable to openly bater for the sale of Negroes as does this county in Louisiana. Just think of it THREE NEGROES FOR $20 and who knows but that the planter who bought them did not haggle over that sum?

J. W. JOHNSON IN FEBRUARY "FORUM" CHALLENGES LYNCHING "DEBATE"

Louisville News

New York, Feb. 1.—James Weldon Johnson, Secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 69 Fifth Avenue, in a letter published in the February issue of the Forum Magazine, challenges the facts and figures in the "debate" on lynching published in the December, 1926 issue of the Forum. In his letter, Mr. Johnson challenges the assumption put forth by the writers in the debate that "the usual crime" is justification of lynching and charges that the debaters ignored the figures which they themselves quoted from the N. A. A. C. P. records.

Mr. Johnson cites the N. A. A. C. P. statistics showing that less than 18 per cent of 3,590 mob victims in 38 years were even accused of crime against white womanhood. The brutal murders of Aiken, South Carolina, are cited together with the published utterances of bodies of leading white women in the Southern States who have repudiated mob violence as a protection to white womanhood. Mr. Johnson's letter to the Forum concludes:

"Of course, lynching is not and has not been a 'protection to the honor of white womanhood.' t dishonors those who practice it and those in whose behalf it is practiced. Rather it has been part of the post-slavery and post-reconstruction system of terrorization by which the Negro has been disfranchised, kept in peonage, robbed, maltreated, denied justice in the courts and decent accommodation in schools and public places for which he is required to pay. The 'white supremacy' in whise defense lynching is invoked is denied by the horrors of lynching itself, which could come only from inferiors in any known scale of civilization."

AN EDITORIAL WITH THE RIGHT RING

"Amen" "You are right" "Keep it up" is our comment on the editorial which appeared in The Nashville Tennessean, Wednesday morning, March 2nd. We prophesy that if The Nashville Tennessean, The Nashville Banner and and the other outstanding daily papers published in this, our Sunny Southland, will continue to publish such strong editorial utterances, mobs would be impossible in the South; every citizen would have equal justice; every crime would be punished; and every officer of the law would do his full duty.

Condoning crime, shielding the offender and protecting mobs can but only breed more crime. When an officer of the law fails to do his duty in protecting his prisoner, he is guilty, because he takes a solid oath to uphold the magistrate of the law.

The Nashville Tennessean, in writing on this subject in their Wednesday morning issue, March 2nd, said:

"Masked Mob Violence."

"There can be no more deadly assault made upon organized society than the depredations under cover of night of masked and disguised men. A fearless editor in Georgia is the latest victim of such an outrage. Cowardly miscreants who felt the lash of his righteous denunciations of lawlessness attacked him under cover of darkness and in mask and disguise. This outrage followed a number of others in the same section. It is gratifying to record that the authorities of Georgia have acted with commendable promptitude and have already convicted and sentenced members of one mob.

In the last issue of the Pulaski Citizen the disquieting statement is made that recently masked bands of men have been terrorizing and punishing people in sections of that usually law-abiding county. The Citizen very properly denounces the challenge to constituted authority that conduct of this character involves. It very correctly says that no organization nor band of men anywhere have any right, moral or legal, to regulate the lives, the habits or the customs of others.

The county or state that permits hooded or masked bands to roam at night and vent their spleen upon citizens, no matter what the offense of the latter, is playing with fire. If men violate the law, offend the canons of decency or defy the rights of their neighbors, the law and the courts afford adequate remedies. For men to seek redress even for actual wrongs done, through a resort to night riding or white capping, is nothing less than treason against the state. The offense, no matter how heinous it may be, which they seek to punish, is slight as compared to the wrong which the mob does to organized society.

Government is a jealous mistress. It can have no rival; it can never divide dominion at any time or anywhere. It must be supreme always or it fails of the high purpose for which it was instituted. If masked men have ridden the beautiful hills and valleys of Giles county terrorizing men entitled to the protection of their government, the authorities should act, and act without delay and with the determination to bring the guilty to justice.

The Citizen states that the leaders of the Ku Klux Klan have denied complicity in these outrages and it expresses the hope that this is true. The Citizen has never been the enemy of the Klan, declaring that as

SOUTHERNERS LAUD RICHARD'S STAND ON LYNCHING

Atlanta, Ga., Feb. 7.—(By The Associated Negro Press) — The Executive Committee of the Commission on Interracial Co-operation, in called session at the Henry Grady Hotel recently, adopted resolutions strongly commending the recent statement of Governor John G. Richards, of South Carolina, relative to the Aiken lynching, and calling upon the people of South Carolina to support the Governor in his expressed determination to bring the perpetrators to jutsice if within his power. The resolutions call attention also to the lynching record for 1926, and to the fact that in only one of the thirty cases reported have there been any convictions, and appeal to the American people to put an end to these conditions. The statement of the Committee follows:

"We, the Executive Committee on Interracial Co-operation, have noted with keen appreciation the vigorous statement of Governor John G. Richards, of South Carolina, relative to the Aiken lynchings, and especiallys his expressed determination to bring the perpetrators to justice, if within his power. We call upon the people of South Carolina to support Governor Richards to the full in this laudable purpose.

"We would point out also the fact that though thirty lynchings were reported in the United States in 1926, in only one have any convictions been secured, while in most cases not even an arrest has been made.

"Such conditions constitute a grave indictment of our legal processes, our civilization, and our Christian professions, which we as a people cannot afford longer to endure. We, therefore, appeal to the justice, the chivalry and the conscience of America, and particularly of our own southland, to put an end to these conditions, once for all.

"Lynchings may be the act of small and irresponsible groups, but the persistent failure to apprehend and convict the perpetrators lays the guilt upon us all."

The resolutions were unanimously adopted by the Executive Committee, the members present being: Dr. Ashby Jones, of St. Louis; R. H. King, Walter B. Hill, E. Marvin Underwood, Dr. Plato Durham, Rev. W. W. Alexander, and Dr. John Hope, of Atlanta; Dr. C. B. Wilmer, of Sewanee, Tenn.; Dr. Edwin Mims, of Nashville, Tenn., and Dr. Josiah Morse, of Columbia, S. C.

South Carolina Judiciary Committee Recommends Passage Of Purdy Bill

(By Associated Negro Press)

Columbia, S. C., Feb. 9.—The Purdy Bill, empowering the Governor of the State to remove from office any sheriff or peace officer from whom a prisoner is taken by a mob, was returned to the South Carolina Assembly Friday with the recommendation that it become a law. The minutes of the meeting of the judiciary committee show that 11 voted for a favorable report and seven against it.

The bill was introduced by H. K. Purdy of Jasper County last week and was referred to the judiciary committee. Those opposing the bill claimed that it was a "slap" at Aiken, where the rLowmans, including one woman, were lynched last October.

The "Aiken Lynching" and the failure of the grand jury appointed to investigate the affair, to indict any of the alleged lynchers were sharply denounced Friday in the Senate when Senator J. F. Williams of Aiken sought to recall from the house a concurrent resolution passed by the Senate Tuesday in which the assembly pledged its cooperation and support to Governor Richards in his efforts to bring to justice the perpetrators of the crime.

Senator Williams objected to the statement that the lynching occurred in Aiken and in the debate which followed Senator McDonald of Fairfield, declared that "we know where the lynching occurred and who did it." After further remarks the resolution was recalled and made to read "Aiken County", but no other changes were made.

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L. H. King, Editor
H. E. Luccock, Contributing Editor

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Burning Men Alive

BECAUSE of their revolting cruelty and their wholesale proportions, two cases of human burnings at the hands of civilized society stand out with frightful significance in history: the one is the inhuman drama enacted by Nero when he tarred, covered with oil, and burned early Christians for royal amusement in the first century of our Christian era; the other is the harrowing act of the town of Louisville, Miss., where, on June 13, a mob of 1,000 Mississippi Nordics pursued two Negroes already in custody of the county sheriff, took them away from the officer of the law, pierced their bodies with bullets after parading them around through the streets of the little town, thoroughly saturated their exhausted, bleeding bodies with gasoline, applied the torch and danced in glee while the bodies of live human beings writhed, crisped, and died in indescribable agony.

The alleged offense against the community was that the two victims on the previous night had killed a sawmill superintendent who was a white man. But these had not been proven guilty of any crime—had not even been tried. However, had they been tried and found guilty, they would have had meted out to them the full penalty of the law against murder; that is, hanging dead by the neck, in Mississippi. In any event, there was neither legal nor ethical justification for the lynching. Both the fact and form of that lynching are herein complained against. For it was as brutal as human ingenuity could devise. Let the nation ponder it soberly and note its ominous significance for the perpetuity of society.

That Mississippi mob struck a resolute deathblow at every aspect of our American idealism. With them, of course, such idealism may be devoid of value. Not so, however, with the larger American community. The burning alive of those two Negro American citizens was the most serious exhibition of the breakdown of orderly government in a civilized community, and raises more than an academic question as to the adequacy of our legal forms to insure to our citizens the security in their property and persons which is necessary for peace, production, and progress. Commenting on the brutal deed, the *Memphis Commercial Appeal* says editorially:

> "Every man in that mob of 1,000 outraged the law of his own State and spit upon the Constitution of the United States. This was done in the face of the official "effort" of the sheriff of Winston County and his two deputies who, according to the story, fired several shots into the air, in an effort to frighten off the crowd."

This breakdown of law involves the shameful impotence of the Federal Government to enforce its decrees that "the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial by an impartial jury of the State and district wherein the crime shall have been committed," etc. But, except in the matter of frantic prohibition enforcement, what care the former slave-holding Rebel States of the Union about the United States Constitution with its high-sounding decrees concerning justice and domestic tranquility? Its binding obligations, so far as protecting colored Americans is concerned, the South regards as a mere "scrap of paper," to be "spit" upon.

But the sanctity of law violated was *one* of the crimes committed by the Louisville community. The taking of human life—the low estimate traditionally set on the life of the Negro in this State of Mississippi—is one of the most pagan elements in that State's backward civilization. It matters not in Mississippi that Jesus taught the supreme value of human life; that State regards the life of a Negro as of less value than that of a brute. If any crowd of Louisville's citizens had bound together two *bird dogs* on the streets of the village and saturated them with gasoline and attempted to apply the torch, the characteristic "righteous indignation" of the South would have asserted itself, and the lynchers of the two *dogs* could not have carried out their purpose. Even if the sheriff had fired up into the air, for the sake of the *dogs* the mob would have dispersed. But when *Negro men* are gasolined and shot and burned alive, nobody cares!

We do not know, but it is highly probable that members of that very mob were burning their own flesh and blood as they danced around the charred bodies of their Negro fellow citizens. But what matters this? When the lust of blood surges in the Southern mob, *no* consideration weighs anything; neither law, nor innocence, nor heredity, nor religion. When the mob desires blood, it will refuse to take a *dog's* life on protest of the Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals; but Federal Constitution, State's laws, sheriff's pistols, community conscience, and the Christian religion cannot halt a thousand loyal American citizens, in their blood lust, from burning alive *two men*. Rightly does the *Commercial Appeal* continue:

> "The greatest danger threatening the Republic of the United States to-day is from within, not from without. And this danger is a lack of respect for the law. Lawlessness is gnawing at the vitals of the nation like a cancer. And mob rule is just as damnable a form of lawlessness as is bootlegging, safe-blowing, and murder."

The danger to the Republic is the moral danger that will ensue from the burning alive of human beings by mobs at will. For exponents of this species of civil disorder are carrying out deliberately their well-laid program of butchering the Christian idealism, fostered by the churches, which visions men as of equal worth in our moral universe. The one warfare of world society now is clearly defined. It is *pagan racialism* vs. *Christian idealism*. The burning alive of Negroes is the bitterest expression of race extremists against the church's doctrine of brotherhood in Jesus Christ. It is a challenge to Christianity at its very center.

Nothing more astounding has happened within the nation within the last fifty years than *the burning alive of two human beings without a protest raised against it by any national political or religious body*. The silence of the churches on that burning is reflexive and most oppressive. Unless we are mistaken, not a single denominational Board, or Synod, or Conference, has specifically denounced the *burning* of these *two men alive*. We have heard no even casual condemnation by any min-

isterial body, from those who are in the place of the nation's prophets of the righteous social order.

Why the silence? Is the American church too busy, preoccupied with gathering in the shekels, tithing mint, etc., with which to erect huge piles of stones into mammoth temples from which the spirit of the conservation of human spiritual values has departed? Or does the church lack the courage to challenge this destructive philosophy of color determinism by means of which the majority race is emboldened to murder the minority? Or must it be concluded by the Negro that the church by its silence is indirectly condoning the mob that is doing all in its power to keep fear inspired in the Negro that he may remain a semi-slave in the social structure? Or is the American church so spiritually dead as to lack the vitality necessary to attack this gangrenous social evil cutting at the very heart of the country's idealism?

Is the American church hesitating to speak out against the burning alive of Negroes by twos due to her lack of faith in the gospel she preaches? Does the church believe in her professed creed? Is there a God? Was the historic Christ God's expression of Himself to men? Do we preach Christ? Was He a racialist? Are men brothers? Is this Christian philosophy practical? Then is the burning alive of Negro men in harmony with the ideals of the church? Why does not the American church speak out on the burning of these two Negroes? The lynchers take silence for approval or tolerance of their crime. To tolerate that is to tolerate worse. Let the church condemn or condone the burning of Negroes alive!

Keep It Circulating

SO CLUTTERED is our modern life with beneficent social agencies that we scarcely pause amid the benefits accruing therefrom to give proper appraisal to these agencies, and often also fail to reckon the cost and requirements of their maintenance. This fact holds possibly with reference to *the American Bible Society's* marvelous service to humanity. This arm of the kingdom of God is occupied solely with the task of distributing among the peoples of every land the plain printed Word of God for the healing of the hurt of the nations, and has been so engaged continuously for exactly one hundred and eleven years.

It is impossible to conceive of the amount of good accomplished by the society within that period of time. Its impact has been one of the most constructive and creative forces in society. It has kept alive the religious passion; it has fed the too often flickering flame of religious faith; it has ministered to religious idealism and has intensified religious loyalties. To multiplied thousands of every clime and every race it has kept supplied that Book which so many millions still testify is a lamp to their feet and a light unto their pathway. During the society's history the total issues (volumes) of the Scriptures have amounted to 184,028,960 copies which, placed at distances of one mile apart, would reach to the sun and back to earth again. During the year 1926, at home and abroad, the society issued 359,989 Bibles, 654,043 Testaments, and 8,893,329 portions, making a total issue of 9,907,361 in 178 languages.

When we reflect upon the disordered condition of our world life, the factionalism, strife, unsteadiness and uncertainty of human faith in the existing order of things and in the adequacy of the present foundations for future moral security, one is convinced of the increasing need of the Bible with its wealth of religious idealism and contagious passion for justice and purity to solve our problems and to give stability to our faith and direction to our conduct as individuals and groups. Concerning the place of the Bible in our modern civilization, President Coolidge says with keen spiritual discernment:

"The foundations of our society and of our Government rest so much on the teachings of the Bible, that it would be difficult to support them if faith in these teachings should cease to be practically universal in our country. Everyone who has given the matter any thought knows of the great literary value of the Bible and the broad culture, aside from its religious aspect, that comes from a general familiarity with it. Although it has been the subject of most careful and painstaking study for hundreds of years, its most thorough students find in it a constant revelation of new thoughts and new ideals which minister to the spiritual nature of the race. It would be difficult to conceive of any kind of religious instruction which omitted to place its main emphasis on the precepts of this great Book. It has been the source of inspiration and comfort to those who have had the privilege of coming in contact with it, and wherever it goes it raises the whole standard of human relationship."

Since 1826, more than a hundred years, the Methodist Episcopal Church has regarded the cause espoused by the American Bible Society as one of the official benevolences of the denomination. During our Centenary period we accordingly appropriated to foster this cause $150,000 per year. During the past year, however, we have fallen in our giving to less than half that amount. The tragedy lies in the fact that so many other denominations have likewise slumped in their giving to the cause. We can but hope such giving is not expressive of a corresponding slackening of interest in Bible circulation. In referring to this fact, the report of the society observes:

The total income from churches for the year was $225,791.44. Unfortunately, this was $39,208.56 less than the budget committee had estimated as the probable income from the churches for 1926. This unfavorable situation is due to the fact that some of the denominations which are among the largest supporters of the Bible Society did not meet the expectations of the budget committee, and in some cases fell below their gifts of the previous year. On the other hand, we are glad to report that other denominations exceeded their gifts of the previous year. A list of the denominations giving more than $500 for either 1925 or 1926, together with the amounts contributed toward the budget, is given below:

Adventists (Seventh-day)	$2,010
Baptists (Northern)	720
Brethren	833*
Congregationalists	5,341
Disciples	765*
Lutheran (Augustana Synod)	1,426
Lutheran (Free Church and Norwegian)	309*
Lutheran (United)	3,592
Mennonites	592
Methodist Episcopal	73,624*
Methodist Episcopal (South)	33,631
Methodist Episcopal (African)	3,127
Methodist Episcopal Zion (African)	971*
Methodist Protestant	546*
Moravians	938*
Presbyterian (U. S. A.)	41,909*
Presbyterian (U. S.)	19,297*
Presbyterian (Covenanter)	1,846
Presbyterian (United)	9,746*
Reformed (Christian)	2,645
Reformed (in America)	5,267
Reformed (in U. S.)	2,681
United Brethren	1.039*
Netherland Reformed	637

*Indicates decrease.

The Methodist Episcopal Church expects that Universal Bible Sunday will be observed in all our churches in order that the place of the Bible in our national life and the life of the world may be suitably emphasized. Keep the Bible circulating.

nings. The steamer is available for private parties, daylight or moonlight excursions.

Father Kills Man Who Lured Girl, 13, From Home

Because Louise Cook, 13, negro girl, ran away from home, her father, Wiley Cook, is in jail charged with murder, and the man believed to have enticed her away from home is dead. Cook shot and killed Fred Harris, a negro, living next door to the Cook home at 3327 Second street, Thursday morning, when Harris came for the girl's clothes.

Cook concealed himself in a shed in the rear of his home Wednesday evening, believing that some one would come for his daughter's trunk which she had packed before she left. At 2:30 a. m. Harris entered the Cook yard. Cook fired one shot and Harris ran a few steps and fell dead.

The girl was missing Thursday.

Woman Hurled

Lynchings - 1927
Federal Council of Churches, Reports on.

2444

INCREASE IN MOB MURDERS IS SHOCK TO CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Five States Are Dropped From Lynching Honor Roll of the Federal Council of Churches; Only Four States In Union Untarnished by the Crime

"Five states formerly on the Honor Roll had to be removed this year because of the reappearance of mob murder within their borders", says the report. "One of these states, New Mexico, had a record of no lynching for a period of ten years preceding. The four states which lost their places on the Honor Roll because of lynchings during 1926, are Kentucky, South Carolina, Tennessee and Texas."

Rev. Peter Ainslie of Baltimore, chairman of the executive committee of the Federal Council's Commission on the Church and Race Relations, said, "Many church leaders recognize the increase in the number of victims in 1926 as a direct challenge and are redoubling their efforts to arouse public opinion to stop mob murder in America."

4 States Never Had Lynching

The list showing the state free from lynching in 1926, in classified groups over periods of years, is as follows:

"States that have NEVER had a record of a lynching: Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont—4.

'Additional states that have no record of lynching since 1886: Connecticut, Maine and New Jersey—3.

"Additional states which have on record of a lynching during the past twenty years: Delaware, Michigan, Wisconsin, Nevada—4.

"Additional states which have no record of a lynching during the past fifteen years: Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Maryland, South Danota—5.

10 Years

"Additional states which have no record of a lynching during the past ten years: New York, North Dakota, Oregon, Pennsylvania—4.

"Additional states which have no record of a lynching during the past five years: Arizona, California, Colorado, Kansas, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, North Carolina, Washington, West Virginia, and Wyoming—11.

2 Years

"Additional states which have no record of a lynching in the past two years: Oklahoma and Illinois—2.

"Additional states which have no record of a lynching during 19. Alabama, Louisiana, Missouri, Ohio, Utah—5.

"Total states free of lynching in 1926—38.

"Total states still having lynching in 1926—10.

"Total number of lynchings in 1926—30.

BRONX HOME NEWS
APR. 6 1927

Increase in Lynching Evil During Past Year Spurs Church Council to Redouble Efforts

Washington. — Churches throughout the country were called on today by the Federal Council of Churches to redouble their efforts to arouse public opinion against the evils of lynching.

"Protestant churches, for five years, have been marshalling a campaign against lynching to make America a lynchless land," Dr. Peter Ainslie, Baltimore, chairman of the race relations committee of the council said. "The record of 1926 has given a setback to the campaign because a total of 30 persons were victims of mobs last year."

Dr. Ainslie pointed out that there were 13 more lynchings in 1926 than the previous year. Lynchings occurred in ten different States.

"The Federal Council of Churches is shocked by the increase in the number of lynchings in 1926," Dr. Ainslie said. He made public a list of States and their "lynching record" as follows:

States that never had a record of lynching are Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont. States with no lynchings since 1886 are Connecticut, Maine and New Jersey and States with no lynchings in the past 20 years are Delaware, Michigan, Wisconsin and Nevada.

Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Maryland and South Dakota have reported no lynchings in 15 years; New York, North Dakota, Oregon and Pennsylvania, none in 10 years; Arizona, California, Colorado, Kansas, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, North Carolina, Washington, West Virginia and Wyoming, none in five years.

Oklahoma and Illinois have reported no lynchings in the past two years while Alabama, Louisiana, Missouri, Ohio and Utah were free from lynchings in 1925.

States in which lynchings occurred last year included New Mexico, Kentucky, South Carolina, Tennessee and Kentucky.

CHURCH COUNCIL REPORT ON MOB MURDER IN U. S.

Commission On Race Relations Alarmed at Increase In Lynchings During 1926 Five States Fell From Honor Roll During Year

CHURCHES WORKING FOR A "LYNCHLESS LAND"

WASHINGTON, April 5—Marked increase in mob murders during the last year was a great shock to the churches in their campaign for a lynchless land, according to a statement accompanying the Honor Roll of states free from lynching in 1926, made public today. This is the fifth annual Honor Roll issued by the Commission on Race Relations of the Federal Council of Churches. A direct challenge to redoubled efforts to arouse public opinion against lynching, in this way the church leaders sum up the situation.

"Five states formerly on the Honor Roll had to be removed this year because of the reappearance of mob murder within their borders," says the report accompanying the Honor Roll. "One of the states, New Mexico, had a record of no lynching for a period of ten years preceding. The four other states which were free of the evil in 1925, but which lost their places on the Honor Roll because of lynchings during 1926, are Kentucky, South Carolina, Tennessee and Texas."

"The year 1926 was a great shock in the campaign of the churches to make America a 'lynchless land,'" according to a statement made by Rev. Peter Ainslie of Baltimore, chairman of the executive committee of the Federal Council's Commission on the Church and Race Relations. "Many church leaders," he said, "recognize the increase in the number of victims in 1926 as a direct challenge and are redoubling their efforts to arouse public opinion to stop mob murder in America. There was a total of 30 persons lynched in 1926, which was 13 more than in 1925 and 14 more than in 1924."

"The total number of states free of lynching in 1926 was 38, which was the same total as in 1925 and in 1924, and one fewer than the total number without any lynchings in 1923. The number of states in which lynchings still occurred in 1926 was 10; the same number as in 1925 and in 1924; the number?

Anti-Lynching Roll Of Honor

The list showing the states from lynching in 1926, in classified groups over periods of years, is as follows:

"States that have never had a record of a lynching:

Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont ------ 4

"Additional states that have no record of a lynching since 1886:

Connecticut, Maine and New Jersey ---------- 3

"Additional states which have no record of a lynching during the past twenty years:

Delaware, Michigan, Wisconsin, Nevada ---------- 4

"Additional states which have no record of a lynching during the past fifteen years:

Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Maryland, South Dakota ---------- 5

"Additional states which have no record of lynching during the past ten years:

New York, North Dakota, Oregon, Pennsylvania ---------- 4

"Additional states which have no record of a lynching during the past five years.:

Arizona, California, Colorado, Kansas, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, North Carolina, Washington West Virginia and Wyoming ---------- 11

"Additional states which have no record of a lynching in the past two years:

Oklahoma and Illinois ---------- 2

"Additional states which have no record of lynching during 1926:

Alabama, Louisiana, Missouri, Utah. ---------- 5

"Total states free of lynching in 1926 ---------- 38

"Total states still having lynching in 1926 ---------- 10

"Total number of lynchings in 1926 ---------- 30"

NEW YORK
SUN and GLOBE
APR 16 1927

LYNCHING IN 1926 SHOWED INCREASE

30 Recorded and 4 States Added to 'Blacklist.'

A marked increase in mob murders during the last year, which has resulted in the erasing of the names of five States formerly on the roll of States free from lynching, is shown in a statement issued by the Commission on Race Relations of the Federal Council of Churches. The report sets the number of lynchings in 1926 at thirty, with ten States still on the "black list."

"Five States formerly on the honor roll had to be removed this year because of the reappearance of mob murder within their borders," says the report. "One of these States, New Mexico, had had a record of no lynching for a period of ten years preceding. The four other States which were free of the evil in 1925, but which lost their places on the honor roll because of lynchings during 1926, are Kentucky, South Carolina, Tennessee and Texas.

"The year 1926 was a great shock in the campaign of the churches to make America a 'lynchless land,'" says the Rev. Peter Ainslie, chairman of the executive committee of the Federal Council's Commission on the Church and Race Relations. "Many church leaders," he says, "recognize the increase in the number of victims in 1926 as a direct challenge, and are redoubling their efforts to arouse public opinion to stop mob murder in America. There was a total of 30 persons lynched in 1926, which was 13 more than in 1925 and 14 more than in 1924.

"The total number of States free of lynching in 1926 was thirty-eight, which was the same total as in 19[illegible] and in 1924 and one fewer than the total number without any lynchings in 1923. The number of States in which lynchings still occurred in 192[illegible] was ten, the same number as in 192[illegible] and in 1924; the number having lynchings in 1923 was nine."

The list showing the States free from lynching in 1926 in classified groups over periods of years is as follows:

States which have never had a record of a lynching—Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont	4
Additional States which have no record of a lynching since 1886—Connecticut, Maine and New Jersey	3
Additional States which have no record of a lynching during the last twenty years—Delaware, Michigan, Wisconsin and Nevada	4
Additional States which have no record of a lynching during the last fifteen years—Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Maryland and South Dakota	5
Additional States which have no record of a lynching during the last ten years—New York, North Dakota, Oregon and Pennsylvania	4
Additional States which have no record of a lynching during the last five years—Arizona, California, Colorado, Kansas, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, North Carolina, Washington, West Virginia and Wyoming	11
Additional States which have no record of a lynching in the last two years—Oklahoma and Illinois	2
Additional States which have no record of a lynching during 1926—Alabama, Louisiana, Missouri, Ohio and Utah	5
Total States free of lynching in 1926	38
Total States still having lynching in 1926	10
Total number of lynchings in 1926	30

TEN 1927 LYNCH STATE

TOTAL SAME BUT 5 OLD STATE OFF. LYNCH. "HONOR ROLL"-CHALLENGE TO ANTI-LYNCHISTS TO REDOUBLE EFFORTS-FAR FROM "LYNCHLESS LAND

Washington, April 5, 1927:—Marke[illegible] increase in mob murders during tha[illegible] last year was a great shock to thta[illegible] churches in their campaign for [illegible] lynchless land, according to a state[illegible] ment accompanying the Honor Roll o[illegible] states free from lynching in 1926 [illegible] made public today. This is the fift[illegible] annual Honor Roll issued by the Com[illegible] mission, on Race Relations of th[illegible] Federal Council of Churches.

Lynchists Challenge Anti-Lynchists

A direct challenge to redoubled efforts to arouse public opinion against lynching, is the way church leaders sum up the situation.

5 States off Honor Roll

"Five states formerly on the Honor Roll had to be removed this year because of the reappearance of mob murder within their borders," says the report accompanying the Honor Roll. "One of these states, New Mexico, had had a record of no lynching for a period of ten years preceding. The four other states which were free of the evil in 1925, but which lost their places on the Honor Roll because of lynchings during 1926, are Kentucky, South Carolina, Tennessee and Texas."

Church to Redouble Efforts

"The year 1926 was a great shock in the campaign of the churches to make America a 'lynchless land,'" according to a statement made by Rev. Peter Ainslie of Baltimore, chairman of the executive committee of the Federal Council's Commission on the Church and Race Relations. "Many church leaders," he said, "recognize the increase in the number of victims in 1926 as a direct challenge and are redoubling their efforts to arouse public opinion to stop mob murder in America. There was a total of 30 persons lynched in 1926, which was 13 more than in 1925 and 14 more than in 1924."

Number of Lynchless States Same

"The total number of states free of lynching in 1926 was 38, which was the same total as in 1925 and in 1924, and one fewer than the total number without any lynchings in 1923. The number of states in which lynchings still occurred in 1926 was 10; the same number as in 1925 and in 1924; the number having lynchings in 1923 was 9."

Interesting State Record on Lynch

The list showing the states free from lynching in 1926, in classified groups over periods of years, is as follows:

"States that have NEVER had a record of a lynching: Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont	4
"Additional states which have no record of a lynching since 1886: Connecticut, Maine and New Jersy	3
"Additional states which have no record of a lynching during the past twenty years: Delaware, Michigan, Wisconsin, Nevada	4
"Additional states which have no record of a lynching during the past fifteen years: Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Maryland, South Dakota	5
"Additional states which have no record of a lynching during the past ten years: New York, North Dakota, Oregon, Pennsylvania	4
"Additional states which have no record of a lynching during the past five years: Arizona, California, Colorado, Kansas, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, North Carolina, Washington, West Virginia, and Wyoming	11
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"Additional states which have no record of a lynching during 1926: Alabama, Louisiana, Missouri, Ohio, Utah	5
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"Total number of lynchings in 1926	30"

—Editor's 55th-Ann. Ed.—

THIRTY PERSONS LYNCHED WITHIN THE PAST YEAR

Lynchings occurred in five states last year that previously had been on the honor roll of the commission on race relations of the Federal Council of Churches, that organization announced today. The states include New Mexico, Kentucky, South Carolina, Tennessee and Texas. New Mexico, the council reported, had a record of no lynchings for a period of ten years.

The report showed that "mob murders" almost doubled last year, with 30 persons lynched, compared with 17 in 1925 and 16 in 1924. There were 38 states free of lynchings during the year. Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont continued their record of no lynchings since becoming states.

NEW YORK
HERALD
APR 6 1927

Lynchings in 1926 Increase to 30 From 17 in Previous Year

From the Herald Tribune Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON, April 5.—Lynchings occurred in five states last year which previously had been on the honor roll of the Commission on Race Relations of the Federal Council of Churches, the organization announced to-day. The states include New Mexico, Kentucky, South Carolina, Tennessee and Texas. New Mexico, the council reported, had a record of no lynchings for a period of ten years.

The report showed that "mob murders" almost doubled last year, with thirty persons lynched, compared with seventeen in 1925 and sixteen in 1924. were free of lynchings during the year. Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont continued their record of no lynchings.

INCREASE IN MOB MURDERS ALARMS CHURCH COUNCIL

Five States Removed From Honor Roll When Lynchings Occur In Them

Washington.—Marked increase in mob murders during the last year was a great shock to the churches in their campaign for a lynchless land, according to a statement accompanying the Honor Roll of States free from lynching in 1926, made public today.

This is the first annual Honor Roll issued by the Commission on Race Relations of the Federal Council of Churches.

Removed from Honor Roll

"Five States formerly on the Honor Roll had to be removed this year because of the reappearance of mob murder within their borders," says the report accompanying the Honor Roll. "One of these States, New Mexico, had had a record of no lynching for a period of ten years preceding. The four other States which were free of the evil in 1925, but which lost their places on the Honor Roll because of lynchings during 1926, are Kentucky, South Carolina, Tennessee and Texas."

"The year 1926 was a great shock in the campaign of the churches to make America a 'lynchless land,'" according to a statement made by the Rev. Peter Ainslie, of Baltimore, chairman of the executive committee of the Federal Council's Commission on the Church and Race Relations. "Many church leaders," he said, "recognize te increase in the number of victims in 1926 as a direct challenge and are redoubling their efforts to arouse public opinion to stop mob murder in America. There was a total of 30 persons lynched in 1926, which was 13 more than in 1925, and 14 more than in 1924."

38 Free From Lynching

"The total number of States free of lynching in 1926 was 38, which was the same total as in 1926 and in 1924, and one fewer than the total number without any lynchings in 1923. The number of States in which lynchings still occurred in 1926 was 10; the same number as in 1925 and in 1924; the number having lynchings in 1923 was 9."

4 Never Had A Mob Murder

The lost showing the States free from lynching in 1926, in classified groups over periods of years, is as follows:

'States that have NEVER had a record of a lynching: Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont	4
'Additional States that have no record of a lynching since 1886: Connecticut, Maine and New Jersey	3
"Additional States which have no record of a lynching during the past twenty years: Delaware, Michigan, Wisconsin and Nevada	4
"Additional States which have no record of a lynching during the past fifteen years: Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Maryland, S. Dakota	5

Lynchings—1927
Federal Council of Churches, Reports on.

2445

Marked Increase in Lynching

WASHINGTON, April 11.—Marked increase in mob murders during the last year was a great shock to the churches in their campaign for a lynchless land, according to a statement accompanying the Honor Roll of States free from lynching in 1926, recently made public. This is the fifth annual Honor Holl issued by the Commission on Race Relations of the Federal Council of Churches.

The total number of States free of lynching in 1926 was 38, which was the same total as in 1925 and 1924, and one fewer than the total number without any lynchings in 1923. The number of States in which lynchings still occurred in 1926 was 10, the same number as in 1925 and in 1924; the number having lynchings in 1923 was 9."

The list showing the States free from lynching in 1926, in classified groups over periods of years, is as follows:

"States that have never had a lynching: Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont 4

"Additional States that have no record of a lynching since 1886: Connecticut, Maine and New Jersey 3

"Additional States which have no record of a lynching during the past twenty years: Delaware, Michigan, Wisconsin, Nevada 4

"Additional States which have no record of a lynching during the past fifteen years: Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Maryland, South Dakota 5

"Additional States which have no record of a lynching during the past ten years: New York, North Dakota, Oregon, Pennsylvania 4

"Additional States which have no record of a lynching during the past five years: Arizona, California, Colorado, Kansas, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, North Carolina, Washington, West Virginia, and Wyoming 11

"Additional States which have no record of a lynching in the past two years: Oklahoma and Illinois 2

"Additional States which have no record of a lynching during 1926: Alabama, Louisiana, Missouri, Ohio, Utah 5

"Total States free of lynching in 1926 38

"Total States still having lynching in 1926 10

"Total number of lynchings in 1926 30

Lynchings Show Increase in 1926

Washington, April 17.—Marked increase in mob murders during the last year was a great shock to the churches in their campaign for a lynchless land, according to a statement accompanying the Honor Roll of states free from lynching in 1926, made public last week. This is the fifth annual Honor Roll issued by the Commission on Race Relations of the Federal Council of Churches. A direct challenge to redoubled efforts to arouse public opinion against lynching, is the way church leaders sum up the situation.

"Five states formerly on the Honor Roll had to be removed this year because of the reappearance of mob murders within their borders," says the report accompanying the Honor Roll. "One of these states, New Mexico, had had a record of no lynching for a period of ten years preceding. The four other states which were free of the evil in 1926, but which lost their places on the Honor Roll because of lynchings during 1926, are Kentucky, South Carolina, Tennessee and Texas."

Redouble Efforts to Stop Lynching

"The year 1926 was a great shock in the campaign of the churches to make America a lynchless land,' " according to a statement made by Rev. Peter Ainslie of Baltimore, chairman of the executive committee of the Federal Council's Commission on the Church and Race Relations. "Many Church leaders," he said, "recognize the increase in the number of victims in 1926 as a direct challenge and are redoubling their efforts to arouse public opinion to stop mob murder in America. There was a total of 30 persons lynched in 1926, which was 13 more than in 1925 and 14 more than in 1924.

"The total number of states free of lynching in 1926 was 38, which was the same total as in 1925 and 1924, and one fewer than the total number without any lynchings in 1923. The number of states in which lynchings still occurred in 1926 was 10; the same number as in 1925 and in 1924; the number having lynchings in 1923 was 9."

The list showing the states free from lynching in 1926, in classified groups over periods of years, is as follows:

"States that have never had a record of a lynching: Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont—4.

"Additional states that have no record of a lynching since 1886 Connecticut, Maine and New Jersey—3.

"Additional states which have no record of a lynching during the past twenty years: Delaware, Michigan, Wisconsin, Nevada—4

"Additional states which have no record of a lynching during the past fifteen years: Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Maryland, South Dakota—5.

"Additional states which have no record of a lynching during the past ten years: New York, North Dakota, Oregon, Pennsylvania—4

"Additional states which have no record of a lynching during the past five years: Arizona, California, Colorado, Kansas, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, North Carolina, Washington West Virginia and Wyoming—11.

"Additional states which have no record of a lynching in the past two years: Oklahoma and Illinois—2.

"Additional states which have no record of a lynching during 1926: Alabama, Louisiana, Missouri, Ohia, Utah—5.

"Total states free of lynching in 1926—38.

"Total states still having lynching in 1926—10.

"Total number of lynchings in 1926—30."

SENTINEL
MILWAUKEE, WIS.
APR 6 1927

Wisconsin 20 Years Without a Lynching

Wisconsin doesn't believe in taking the law in its own hands, according to a report made by the Federal Council of Churches at Washington yesterday. Not a lynching has occurred in Wisconsin for twenty years the council commission on race relations reported in making public its annual roll of honor of states free from lynching in 1926. Four states, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New Hampshire and Vermont have never had a lynching the report stated.

NEW YORK
Mail & Eve. Telegram

APR 6 1927

LYNCHINGS INCREASED, CHURCH DATA SHOW

Thirty Acts of "Hemp Justice" on Record During 1926.

By the United Press.

WASHINGTON, April 6.—Lynchings almost doubled last year, with thirty occurring in ten States, the Federal Council of Churches reports.

Five no-lynch "honor roll" States for 1925, New Mexico, Kentucky, South Carolina, Tennessee and Texas, were removed in 1926.

Figures for last year show a gain of thirteen lynchings over the seventeen for 1925 and fourteen more than in 1924.

1926 INCREASE IN LYNCHINGS 'GREAT SHOCK' TO CHURCHES

WASHINGTON, April 5.—Marked increase in mob murders during the last year was a great shock to the churches in their campaign for a lynchless land, according to a statement accompanying the Honor Roll of States free from lynching in 1926, made public today. This is the fifth annual Honor Roll issued by the Commission on Race Relations of the Federal Council of Churches. A direct challenge to redoubled efforts to arouse public opinion against lynching is the way church leaders sum up the situation.

"Five States formerly on the Honor Roll had to be removed this year because of the reappearance of mob murder within their borders," says the report accompanying the honor Roll. One of these States, New Mexico, had had a record of no lynching for a period of ten years preceding. The four other States which were free of the evil in 1926, but which lost their places on the Honor Roll because of lynchings in 1926, are Kentucky, South Carolina, Tennessee and Texas."

"The year 1926 was a great shock in the campaign of the churches to make America a 'lynchless land'," according to a statement made by Rev. Peter Ainslie of Baltimore, chairman of the executive committee of the Federal Council's Commission on the Church and Race Relations. "Many church leaders," he said, "recognize the increase in the number of victims in 1926 as a direct challenge and are redoubling their efforts to arouse public opinion to stop mob murder in America. There was a total of 30 persons lynched in 1926, which was 13 more than in 1925 and 14 more than in 1924.

"The total number of States free of lynching in 1926 was 38, which was the same total as in 1925 and in 1924, and one fewer than the total number without any lynchings in 1923. The number of States in which lynchings still occurred in 1926 was 10; the same number as in 1925 and 1924; the number having lynchings in 1923 were 9.

HONOR R... OF STATES FREE OF 1926 LYNCHINGS

Churches To Redouble Efforts to Urge Public Against Mobbery

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HONOR ROLL OF STATES FREE OF 1926 LYNCHINGS

Churches To Redouble Efforts to Urge Public Against Mobbery

(Continued from page 1)

chairman of the executive committee of the Federal Council's Commission on the Church and Race Relations. "Many Church leaders," he said, "recognize the increase in the number of victims in 1926 as a direct challenge and are redoubling their efforts to arouse public opinion to stop mob murder in America. There was a total of 30 persons lynched in 1926, which was 13 more than in 1925 and 14 more than in 1924.

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The list showing the states free from lynching in 1926, in classified groups over periods of years, is as follows:

"States that have NEVER had a record of a lynching:

Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont—4; "Additional states that have no record of a lynching since 1886: Connecticut, Maine and New Jersey—3; "Additional states which have no record of a lynching during the past twenty years: Delaware, Michigan, Wisconsin, Nevada—4; "Additional states which have no record of a lynching during the past fifteen years: Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Maryland, South Dakota—5; "Additional states which have no record of a lynching during the past ten years: New York, North Dakota, Oregon, Pennsylvania—4; "Additional states which have no record of a lynchnig during the past five years: Arizona, California, Colorado, Kansas, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, North Carolina, Washington, West Virginia, and Wyoming—11; "Additional states which have no re cord of a lynching in the past two years: Oklahoma and Illinois—2; "Additional states which have no record of a lynching during 1926: Alabama, Louisiana, Missouri, Ohio, Utah—5; "Total states free of lynching in 1926—38 and "Total states still having lynching in 1926—10.

"Total number of lynchings in [illegible]—30."

Lynchings Doubled in America During Last Year, Church Reports

WASHINGTON, April 8 (FP).—Lynchings nearly doubled in number in the United States in 1926 as compared with 1925, according to a summary made public by the Federal Council of Churches. While there were only 17 lynchings in 1925, there were 30 in 1926. Five states formerly on the "honor roll" of commonwealths in which no lives had been taken by mob violence, were the scene of deliberate mob killings. New Mexico was one of these. It had had no lynching in the previous years.

The churches' statement does not say where the 30 lynchings of the past year did occur, but indicated that they took place in 7 states, chiefly in the south.

Churches Regret that Mob Murders Mount

Washington, April 5—Marked increase in mob murders during the last year was a great shock to the churches in their campaign for a lynchless land, according to a statement accompanying the Honor Roll of states free from lynching in 1926, made public today. This is the fifth annual Honor Roll issued by the Commission on Race Relations of the Federal Council of Churches. A direct challenge to redoubled efforts to arouse public opinion against lynching, is the way church leaders sum up the situation.

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"The year 1926 was a great shock in the campaign of the churches to make America a 'lynchless land'," according to a statement made by Rev. Peter Ainslie of Baltimore, chairman of the executive committee of the Federal Council's Commission on the Church and Race Relations. "Many church leaders," he said, "recognize the increase in the number of victims in 1926 as a direct challenge and are redoubling their efforts to arouse public opinion to stop mob murder in America. There was a total of 30 persons lynched in 1926, which was 13 more than in 1925 and 14 more than in 1924.

"The total number of states free of lynching in 1926 was 38, which was the same total as in 1925 and in 1924, and one fewer than the total number without any lynchings in 1923. The number of states in which lynchings still occurred in 1926 was 10; the same number as in 1925 and in 1924; the number having lynchings in 1923 was 9."

The list showing the states free from lynching in 1926, in classified groups over periods of years, is as follows: "States that have NEVER had a record of a lynching: Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont; none since 1886: Connecticut, Maine and New Jersey; none during past 20 years: Delaware, Michigan, Wisconsin, Nevada; none during past 15 years: Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Maryland, South Dakota; none during past 10 years: New York, North Dakota, Oregon, Pennsylvania; none during the past 5 years: Arizona, California, Colorado, Kansas, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, North Carolina, Washington, West Virginia, and Wyoming; none in the past two years: Oklahoma and Illinois. Additional states which have no record of a lynching during 1926: Alabama, Louisiana, Missouri, Ohio, Utah.

Lynchings-1927

Federal Council of Churches, Reports on

2446

FIGHT LOSING WAR AGAINST LYNCH EVIL

Mob Rule Seen to Be on Increase

Defender

A marked increase in mob murders during the last year, which has resulted in the erasing of the names of five states formerly on the roll of states free from lynching, is shown in a statement issued by the commission on race relations of the Federal Council of Churches. The report sets the number of lynchings in 1926 at 30, with 10 states still on the 'black list."

'Five states formerly on the honor roll had to be removed this year because of the reappearance of mob murder within their borders," says the report. "One of these states, New Mexico, had had a record of no lynching for a period of 10 years preceding. The four other states which were free of the evil in 1925, but which lost their places on the honor roll because of lynchings during 1926 are Kentucky, South Carolina, Tennessee and Texas.

YEAR 1926 PROVES GREAT DISAPPOINTMENT

"The year 1926 was a great shock in the campaign of the churches to make America a lynchless land," says Rev. Peter Ainslie, chairman of the executive committee of the Federal council's commission on the church and race relations. "Many church leaders recognize the increase in the number of victims in 1926 as a direct challenge and are redoubling their efforts to arouse public opinion to stop mob murder in America. There was a total of 30 persons lynched in 1926, which was 13 more than in 1925 and 14 more than in 1924.

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FEW STATES HAVE HAD NO LYNCHINGS

The list showing the states free from lynching in 1926 in classified groups over periods of years is as follows:

States which have never had a record of a lynching—Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont—4.

Additional states which have no record of a lynching since 1886—Connection, Maine and New Jersey—3.

Additional states which have no record of a lynching during the last 20 years—Delaware, Michigan, Wisconsin and Nevada—4.

Additional states which have no record of a lynching during the last 15 years—Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Maryland and South Dakota—5.

Additional states which have no record of a lynching during the last 10 years—New York, North Dakota, Oregon and Pennsylvania—4.

Additional states which have no record of a lynching during the last five years—Arizona, California, Colorado, Kansas, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, North Carolina, Washington, West Virginia and Wyoming—11.

Additional states which have no record of a lynching in the last two years—Oklahoma and Illinois—2.

Additional states which have no record of a lynching during 1926—Alabama, Louisiana, Missouri, Ohio and Utah—5.

Total states free of lynching in 1926—38.

Total states still having lynching in 1926—10.

Total number of lynchings in 1926—30.

Tallahassa Ala
Home

APR 7 - 1927

NO LYNCHINGS IN ALABAMA IN 1926

WASHINGTON, April 7.—Alabama was one of 38 states which had no lynchings in 1926, the Federal Council of Churches reported Wednesday.

Thirty persons were lynched during the year, the report states, which was 13 more than in 1925 and 14 more than in 1924.

These lynchings took place in 10 states, four losing their places on the honor roll because of them. These four were Kentucky, South Carolina, Tennessee and Texas.

JOURNAL
FRANKFORT, KY.

MAY 8 1927

LYNCHINGS ON INCREASE.

A marked increase in lynchings is reported by the Federal Council of Churches, New York City. Thirty persons were lynched in 1926, which is thirteen more than in 1925, and fourteen more than in 1924, according to this report. It also stated that the total number of states free of lynching in 1926 was thirty-eight, which was the same total as in 1925 and in 1924, and one less than the total number without any lynchings in 1923.

Only yesterday a lynching was reported in Mississippi for a provocation not unusual. During the last two months the militia in three states were called upon to guard prisoners from mobs. In each case the prisoners would have been lynched had it not been for the military protecting them. We are fortunate, however, that Kentucky suffers rarely from such acts of violence.

INCREASE IN MOBS NOTED

Council Of Churches Declare It Is A Challenge

TO REDOUBLE EFFORT

Special to the Journal and Guide

Washington, April 5—Marked increase in mob murders during the last year was a great shock to the churches in their campaign fro a lynchless land, according to a statement accompanying the report of states free from lynching in 1926, made public today. This is the fifth annual Honor Roll issued by the Commission on Race Relations of the Federal Council of Churches. A direct challenge to redoupled efforts to arouse public opinion against lynching, is the way church leaders sum up the situation.

4-9-27

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Year Great Shock to Churches

"The year 1926 was a great shock in the campaign of the churches to make America a 'lynchless land," according to a statement made by Rev. Peter Ainslie of Baltimore, chairman of the executive committee of the Federal Council's Commission on the Church and Race. "Many church leaders," he said, "recognize the increase in the number of victims in 1926 as a direct challenge and are redoubling their efforts to arouse public opinion to stop mob murder in America. There was a total of 30 persons lynched in 1926, which was 13 more than in 1925 and 14 more than in 1924.

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States Free From Lynchings

The list showing the states free from lynching in 1926, in classified groups over periods of years is as follows:

"States that have never had a record of a lynching:

Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont.....4

"Additional states that have no record of a lynching since 1886:

Connecticut, Maine and New Jersey.....3

"Additional states which have no record of a lynching during the past twenty years:

Delaware, Michigan, Wisconsin, Nevada.....4

"Additional states which have no record of a lynching during the past fifteen years:

Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Maryland, South Dakota.....5

"Additional states which have no record of a lynching during the past ten years:

New York, North Dakota, Oregon, Pennsylvania.....4

"Additional states which have no record of a lynching during the past five years:

Arizona, California, Colorado, Kansas, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, North Carolina, Washington, West Virginia and Wyoming.....11

"Additional states which have no record of a lynching in the past two years:

Oklahoma and Illinois.....2

"Additional states which have no record of a lynching during 1926:

Alabama, Louisiana, Missouri, Ohio, Utah.....5

"Total states free of lynching in 1926.....38

"Total states still having lynching in 1926.....10

"Total number of lynchings in 1926.....30"

THE LYNCHING HORROR

Nationwide Appeal for Special Prayers to Halt Sadistic Southern Sport—Over 4,000 Negro Victims, Including 91 Women, in 45 Years

Church people have been summoned by the Federal Council of Churches to penitence and prayer on February 12 to free the nation from lynching and mob violence.

The summons, which fixed that date for the observance of Race Relations Sunday, was issued through the council's Commission of Race Relations, of which Dr. George E. Haynes is secretary. Need for the call has been stressed by the Commission on Interracial Co-operation.

"Lynching is a crime which leaves its stain upon us all," the call declares. "Any community that flouts the dignity of the law and courts of justice opens the way to the violent rule of the mob throughout the nation. It assaults the very ideals upon which our civilization is dependent. A nation's penitence and prayer must be summoned both to check the lynching evil and to build up deeper respect for the processes of justice and new sympathetic understanding among all the people. In the attitude of penitence and the atmosphere of prayer the best things come forth.

"The sobering fact that more than 4,000 people have been victims of lynching in our country has filled all people of good will with a sense of horror and shame. That mob violence should have continued through the years, so that in 1926 there were as many as thirty persons lynched in the United States, is so flagrantly opposed to the progress of right and brotherhood that all who are committed to the way of Christ are asked to observe a day of penitence and prayer that our American nation may be purged of this blot upon its pages."

The call urges national confession before God for "our failure to act on the belief that we are all 'of one blood' and have one Father," for "the callous indifference and silence we have shown in the face of monstrous wrong, thereby ourselves becoming guilty in the sight of God and man," and for "our false sense of racial superiority and all the heartless attitudes that accompany it."

The statement suggests as grounds for thanksgiving "the new sense of the unity of the whole human family to which our generation is coming," and "a deepening sensitiveness of conscience with reference to all discrimination against any of our fellows because of race or class."

Americans should be thankful, it is suggested, "for all public officers who courageously defend the majesty of law and orderly government, who faithfully protect those for whom they are responsible and who resolutely do their duty even in the face of danger and death.

"In the forty-five years ending with 1926, American mobs lynched 4,551 persons, about three-fourths of whom were Negroes, about ninety-one of whom were women," said Dr. Haynes. "In 1927 to December 1 there were fifteen victims, two of them burned at the stake.

"Every lynching that occurs is an indictment of Christianity before the world. American lynchings, according to the testimony of missionaries abroad, are doing much to hinder and discredit mission work around the world."

Lynchings-1927
Legal Punishment for Rape

Arkansas.

2486

NEGRO, LONNIE DIXON, PLEADS "NOT GUILTY"

Arraigned In Little Rock for Slaying Girl.

Commercial Appeal

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., May 17.—Lonnie Dixon, 16-year-old negro, who confessed to the murder of Floella McDonald in the belfray of the First Presbyterian Church several weeks ago and who was returned to the penitentiary yesterday from Texarkana, was arraigned before Judge [illegible] in circuit court today and entered a plea of not guilty. His trial will take place Thursday. The negro is being guarded at the penitentiary walls by members of the Terral Arkansas National Guard company. The guardsmen have orders from Gov. Martineau to use the guns if necessary to protect the negro from mob violence. Every detail of preparedness has been carried out to forestall any unexpected attempts to take the negro.

NEGRO YOUTH MUST DIE FOR HIS BRUTAL CRIME

Lonnie Dixon Goes to Chair for Killing Little Rock Girl.

QUICK VERDICT OF GUILTY

Jury Refuses to Believe Defendant's Story That Another Boy Slew McDonald Child—His First Confession Proves His Undoing.

Commercial Appeal

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., May 19.—Lonnie Dixon, 17-year-old negro, was tonight sentenced to the electric chair for the murder of Floella McDonald, 12, on April 12. The date of execution was set as June 24.

The jury was out less than 10 minutes. The date for the electrocution is Dixon's seventeenth birthday.

The defendant was the first witness placed on the stand by the defense. He completely repudiated his confession, stated that he made it while hungry and after the officers had told him if he did not confess his father and mother would pay the penalty for the crime. He said he was at his home about noon on April 12 when his father, Frank Dixon, then janitor of the First Presbyterian Church, called him on the telephone and told him that he wanted to go to a baseball game and that he would have to watch the church in his absence.

He said that he went to the church about 1 o'clock. About 10 minutes later, Dixon testified, Eugene Hudson, 16-year-old negro, came to the church and with several other negro youths they went across the street.

Dixon said that Hudson left soon after and in a little while came back with a package under his arm. He asked him what he had and testified that Hudson said that he had bought a new shirt and wanted to go into the church basement to change clothes. He testified that they both went to the church and soon Hudson began talking of a little girl he had seen passing the church. Dixon said that the negro youth told him that he was going to stop her the next time she came by.

After Hudson changed his shirt Lonnie said that he went back across the street and was reading an evening paper and that Hudson was standing on the corner at Eighth and Scott Streets. He said soon after a little girl passed and Dixon claims he asked Hudson if she was the one that he was talking about, and that he said no.

A little while later, Dixon testified, another girl came by and stopped in the east doorway of the church. He said that Hudson walked over to where the girl was standing and that they entered the church. He said that he then left and started work, paying no more attention to the negro youth and the girl. Soon after, he testified, he heard a sound believed to be a girl screaming. He said that Hudson called him to the front of the church and that he went to the belfry.

Skeptical of Story.

There, he said, he saw Hudson standing over the girl's body, and declared that the youth told him he had to do it.

But the jury did not believe Dixon's story which he related on the stand under guidance of an attorney appointed by the court to defend him. Indeed, the jury believed Dixon's confession made shortly after his arrest, in which he vividly described the crime for which he must die in expiation.

ALLEGED RAPIST IS FOUND NOT GUILTY

Associated Negro Press

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., Jan. 26—Lorenzo Pickens, charged with criminally assaulting a white woman near here several months ago, was acquitted Thursday by the Little River Circuit Court on the grounds that the identification of Pickens had not been established with sufficient certainty. The verdict of the jury was submitted after three hours of deliberation.

NEGRO ARRAIGNED FOR KILLING GIRL

Youth Enters Plea of Not Guilty of Murdering Arkansas Girl

Gazette

LITTLE ROCK, ARK., May 17.—(AP)—Lonnie Dixon, 16-year-old negro, taken secretly today to the Pulaski county courthouse, entered a formal plea of not guilty to the charge of having murdered Floella MacDonald, 12-year-old girl, whose body was found locked in the belfry of a fashionable church here.

The fact that Dixon was to be arraigned was not known until after he had been returned to the state penitentiary where he is being held under guard of state troops. His trial was set for Thursday.

A detachment of state troops was placed about the prison and machine guns mounted on the walls as a precaution against a recurrence of mob violence which occurred ten days ago when John Carter, a negro charged with having attacked two white women, was lynched.

Meanwhile search continued today for another negro who entered the home of a white woman yesterday and struck her over the head with a milk bottle.

Was Lonnie Dixon a seventeen year old colored youth, legally lynched at Little Rock Ark., last Friday is the question which has agitated the mind of many persons since that day.

It will be remembered that Lonnie Dixon was accused of murdering a twelve year old white girl and hiding her body in the belfry of a church. And while the police, who arrested Dixon, send out the usual stereotype statement "he confessed" there is still room for some of us to believe that there is a possibility that this youth was not guilty of the crime. The belief is strengthened by the fact that he was not given a fair and impartial trial. Everybody knows that there is not a chance in a thousand of anybody, be they black or white, getting a fair and impartial trial where the mob spirit is so strong that it is necessary to have troops to guard the accused. The very presence of troops is an acknowledge threat on the part of the mob that it will take the victim in its hands unless the State speedily administers the death dose. And the mob in and about the grounds, is nothing but the language of the members of the mob saying, we are here to see that the State carries out our threat.

Conviction, death sentence or execution, under such circumstances, is really worse than a regular lynching deliberately planned and carried out by a mob, because, it has the sanction of the law, but the mob spirit.

Let us suppose that it had been a white boy accused of the crime. In the first place, there would have been no mob gathered. The alleged confession reported by the police would have been set aside and the youth would have had a chance to employ counsel and present alibis and witnesses to corroborate his statements, etc. And finally, the State would have had to make a case and then prove the guilt. But in the case of Lonnie Dixon, none of this was done. Thus he had no fair trial and as a result he was electrocuted by the State, which may be properly called a legal lynching.

Lynchings - 1927
Legal Punishment for Rape

Canada.

2487

Canada Imposes Its First Death Sentence for Rape

[Chicago Tribune Press Service.]

TORONTO, Ont., Feb. 16.—For the first time in Canadian history the death penalty was imposed today for rape. William McCatherine, negro, was sentenced by Justice Fisher at Chatham. McCatherine was convicted by a jury after fifteen minutes' deliberation of a brutal assault on an 81 year old woman. His counsel offered no defense.

Attacks Old Lady, To Die on Gallows

Chatham, Ont., Feb. 28.—Convicted here Wednesday on a charge of criminal assault on Mrs. S. A. McCall, 81, years old, William McCatherine, 31 years old today was sentenced to be hanged. The date of execution was fixed by Judge Fisher as May 27.

McCatherine's trial began yesterday and consumed less than four hours. The aged victim of the assault testified against McCatherine.

Asked if he had anything to say before the death sentence was imposed, McCatherine gulped and stammered that he "only asked for leniency."

Commutes Hanging to 20 Years in Jail for Rape

[Chicago Tribune Press Service.]

TORONTO, Ont., March 14.—William McCatherine, Chatham, Negro, condemned to hang for the rape of an 82 year old woman, will spend the next 20 years in jail instead and will receive 20 lashes. The Appellate court today decided his low mentality is sufficient reason for commuting the sentence.

Lynchings- 1927 I. Delaware 2482

Legal Punishment for Rape.

Negro Who Attacked 85-Year-Old Woman Hanged in Delaware

Georgetown, Del., May 27.—(AP)—Carl Skinner, negro convicted of an attack on Mrs. Julia A. Bennett, an 85-year-old crippled white woman, near Bridgeville on the night of April 4, was hanged here today.

NEWS
WILMINGTON, DEL.
MAY 27 1927

CURIOUS CROWDS VIEW SCAFFOLD IN SUSSEX JAIL

Hundreds Inspect Mechanism on Which Skinner Will Hang

CONDEMNED IS COOL

Ate Hearty Dinner Before Leaving for Georgetown to Be Executed Today

By a Staff Correspondent

GEORGETOWN, May 26.—On the eve of the execution of Carl Skinner, negro, condemned to die for criminally assaulting Mrs. Julia A. Bennett, an eighty-five-year-old crippled white woman, of near Bridgeville, on the night of April 4, this town was exceedingly quiet compared with the night before the trial of Harry Butler, preceding his execution in 1926, when the square in front of the Sussex county jail was barricaded and barbed wire entanglements erected to guard against an attack on the accused man. Seething crowds at that time resulted in a cannon being placed on the Court House roof and a detachment of the National Guard called out to prevent any outbreak.

Get View of Scaffold

The outstanding feature here tonight was the opening of the gates to the prison yard after the scaffold had been erected and permission given to the curious to enter and inspect the death dealing mechanism. Several hundred persons, men, women and children availed themselves of the opportunity and while some of them contented themselves with merely gazing, other more venturesome spirits made more mintue examination of the workings of the machine.

At the Butler hanging the crowds were admitted after the hanging and large numbers scanned the body dangling in midair. This will not be possible this time under the new law which permits only the official jury and newspaper men to witness the death of the condemned man.

The gallows arrived here this afternoon in charge of William G. Weggeman and John Gremer trusties. They superintended the erection of the scaffold together with Warden Elmer Leach who also accompanied them.

Skinner will arrive here between 3 and 4 o'clock tomorrow morning, being due to leave Greenbank at midnight in charge of Deputy Sheriff George A. Gray and a detail of State Highway police under Corporal Ray Ingram.

So far no request has been received by Warden Bryan from Mrs. Bennett, the aged victim of the negro or her son, Norman Harris, for permission to view the hanging and the sheriff is of the belief that none will be asked. Under the law they may be permitted to be among the spectators.

Among the visitors in town tonight are numbers from Maryland and Virginia and many from the rural sections around Georgetown and Bridgeville.

Will Watch Skinner

Upon the arrival of Skinner tomorrow morning he will be placed in a cell facing the jailyard, but he will not be able to see the gallows from his cell. He will be watched constantly from the time of his incarceration in the death cell until taken to the scaffold by a death watch of two men, Lloyd I. Jefferson and Henry Clay Hitchens, both of Laurel.

So far no word has been received from any of the relatives of the doomed man, according to Warden Bryan and unless some claim is made for the body tomorrow before or after the execution, it will be buried in Potter's Field. Skinner will be attended prior to and during the execution by Rev. John Barlow of Hebron M. E. Church.

Skinner Remains Calm

Skinner, fully cognizant of his impending doom, arose early yesterday morning complaining of suffering from rheumatism. Medical attention was given and it was found to be only a slight attack and will in no way interfere with the carrying out of the death penalty.

The condemned man showed no great emotion throughout the day and ate heartily. At 9.45 o'clock last night he was served with a dinner of beef steak and potatoes and he ate with an evident relish. He did not sleep, however, during yesterday, except for possible "cat naps" while he lay on his cot in his cell.

He appeared more cheerful than at any time since his confinement. Warden Leach said last night shortly before Skinner was removed from his cell to start for the place of execution.

Rev. Henry Y. Arnett, Skinner's spiritual advisor, spent part of yesterday with the prisoner and will accompany him to Georgetown.

Upon his arrival in Georgetown Skinner will be placed in his cell and given an opportunity to rest. Later he will be given a hearty breakfast and attired in clean clothing and permitted to converse with his spiritual advisors. The execution has been set for between the hours of 10 a. m and 3 p. m., standard time, but it is known that as soon after 10 o'clock as possible the sentence of the law will be carried out.

WILMINGTON
DELAWARE
MAY 27 1927

FORGIVENESS ASKED BY MAN ON GALLOWS

Crippled by Rheumatism, Guards Support Him Up Scaffold Steps

"GOD BLESS YOU ALL," HIS FAREWELL WORDS

By Staff Correspondent.

GEORGETOWN, Del., May 27—Carl A. Skinner, 27-year-old colored man, was hanged at 10.08 this morning in the jail yard here for criminally assaulting Mrs. Julia A. Bennett, 85-year-old crippled white woman on the night of April 4, at her home near Bridgeville.

By a strange coincidence Skinner went to his death crippled with rheumatism and required more support in walking to the scaffold than his aged victim required, when she hobbled into the court room on April 26, when Skinner was convicted and sentenced to be hanged for his crime.

On his way to Georgetown from the New Castle County Workhouse, Skinner admitted to his guards the assault on aged Mrs. Bennett, and said he "forgot what he was doing" when he committed that act.

It was the first hanging under the new law which requires executions to be private, and the scenes about the courthouse and jail yard were in marked contrast to those surrounding the hanging of Harry Butler, negro, hanged for a like offense a year ago.

Skinner mounted the scaffold at 10.05 o'clock, supported by Captain William S. Weggenman and John Gramer, guards of the New Castle County Workhouse.

In an almost fainting condition,

Continued on Page Twelve

Skinner had to be virtually carried up the steps by the guards. His crippled condition made walking difficult and but for the support of Captain Weggenman and Gramer he would likely have fallen to the ground. Fifty person, including newspaper men, were in the jail yard to witness the hanging.

In a low but fairly firm voice Skinner delivered himself of these words just before the black cap was adjusted over his head:

"Farewell all. May I be forgiven for all my sins. Bless you all—God forgive you all—farewell."

At 10.07 o'clock Captain Weggenman strapped Skinner's legs together while Gramer adjusted the black cap and noose. At 10.08 the trap was sprung. At 10.31 o'clock he was officially pronounced dead by the witnessing physicians, Dr. G. Frank Jones, of Georgetown, and Dr. E. H. F. Farlow, of Laurel. The physicians said Skinner's neck had been broken.

Shortly afterward the body was placed in a satin lined casket. The black hood was left on the man's head as the casket lid was screwed down. Buried with Skinner was a tiny crucifix, given him by a priest at the New Castle County Workhouse, and a pocket testament. His body was interred in the graveyard adjoining the Sussex county almshouse two miles from Georgetown. No relatives of the man came to claim his body and he was interred without ceremony of any sort, by John T. Carey, Georgetown undertaker.

Prior to Skinner going to his death, the Rex. H. Y. Arnett, colored, presiding elder of the A. M. E. Conference, of Wilmington, and the Rev. Walter Barlow, a white minister of the Georgetown M. E. Circuit, prayed with Skinner. The condemned man told the ministers he felt sure he was going to heaven.

Not Many in Crowd

Not more than 100 persons gathered outside the jail yard while the execution was going on. The few persons that were standing about were orderly and in great contrast to those who climbed trees and poles to get a glimpse of Harry Butler on the way to the gallows a year ago.

Among those who had been officially asked to witness the hanging were: Walter G. Powell, Wilmington; Coroner Carlton H. Gordy, Millsboro; Prothonotary A. F. Wilgus, Georgetown; Norris E. Marvel, Seaford; Asa Bennett, Frankford; John A. Jones, John T. Watson, and Charles S. Calhoun, all of Georgetown, and Thomas James, of near Laurel.

After Skinner was pronounced dead by the physicians, the official execution jury which had been selected by Sheriff Bryan, signed a document for presentation to the Court of Oyer and Terminer, certifying that the sentence of the court was carried out.

The members of the jury were: Joseph B. Phillips, of Bridgeville; Leon Holloway, of Laurel; William S. Downing, of Rehoboth; E. B. Betts, of Greenwood; Robert A. Derrickson, of Milford; Frank Wilkins, of Georgetown; Norman Chandler, of Frankford; Lorenzo T. Brittingham, of Millsboro; Harland G. Phillips, near Delmar; Samuel N. Culver, of Delman; John Fisher, of Milton, and Joseph K. Lingo, of Millsboro.

Ate Hearty Breakfast.

Skinner ate a hearty breakfast, although when asked by Sheriff William G. Bryan what he wanted at 7.45 o'clock this morning, he expressed no preference, but told the sheriff he'd eat whatever was set before him.

Sheriff Bryan brought him a porterhouse steak, with hashed brown potatoes, home made rolls and butter and strawberries and cream. Skinner quickly ate his breakfast and told his guards, Lloyd I. Jefferson and Henry Clay Hitchens, both of Laurel, who had guarded him since he was brought to Georgetown early this morning, that he liked the strawberries best.

After breakfast, Skinner was given a walk about the jail yard and passed

within a few feet of the gallows upon which he was hanged. He leaned heavily upon the two guards who held him each by an arm.

Skinner was badly crippled from rheumatism and had great difficulty in walking. He walked in a hunched position and his guards were forced to almost carry him at times.

Boy Made Noose

Just before dusk last night, the rope which was used to hang the man today, was tested with a 150 pound sandbag. Sheriff Bryan's 13-year-old son, Reuben D. Bryan, who is an expert at knot tieing, made the noose knot. By a coincidence, there were 13 coils in the knot around the rope proper and young Bryan, who made the noose, is 13 years of age.

The gallows was erected in the back of the jail yard and out of sight of the grated cell window, where the condemned man spent his last hours. When Harry Butler was hanged at Georgetown last year he was able to look out upon the gallows Officials guarded against Skinner having to undergo the ordeal of constantly looking out upon the device of death.

After his walk about the jail yard, Skinner's guards took him back to his cell where they changed the clothing, which he had wore since his arrest for a a black suit, which he wore when hanged.

He also wore black shoes without laces, black sox, black tie, and white shirt and collar. He will be buried in these clothes. Skinner his guards said, took little interest in the matter of changing his clothes.

With Corporal Ingram, Georgetown; Privates Powell and Bonafacino, all of the State Police, and Deputy Sheriff Asa Gray as his guards, Skinner left the New Castle County Workhouse at 12.10 o'clock this morning. He arrived in Georgetown at 3 o'clock and twenty minutes later was asleep in his cell with Jefferson and Hitchens, comprising the death watch, guarding him.

Saw Auto Accident

The trip from the workhouse to Georgetown was uneventful except near Magnolia, when the two cars containing the police and Skinner were forced to stop when they came upon a wrecked automobile in the middle of the highway.

Investigation by State Police disclosed that a party of Negroes, who had been riding in the machine, had been hurt when the car skidded and plowed into a ditch and came out upon the road again. The car was bespattered with blood on its hood, but later inquiries disclosed that none of those in the car had been badly hurt.

After leaving Magnolia, where the cars taking Skinner to his doom had been halted for some minutes, the condemned man asked if he might sing hymns and pray. He was told to go ahead.

Prays and Sings Hymns.

Skinner repeated the Lord's prayer a number of times and then sang several hymns which are usually heard at colored revival meetings.

He sang of going across the Jordan and of "traveling on the railroad with Jesus as his guide."

After that he seemed less inclined to moodiness, which had characterized most of his ride from the workhouse and talked freely with the officers. He again admitted attacking the aged white woman for which he paid the death penalty this morning. Skinner said he "forgot himself" when he committeed the assault.

He told the officers he had no regret at leaving this world and that the only hell he thought he would experience would be on the gallows. "I'll go to heaven I'm sure," Skinner said.

"I don't hold any grudges against anybody," he further told his guards.

The gallows upon which Skinner was hanged was to have been in Georgetown and erected by noon yesterday, but the truck upon which it was being transported to Georgetown broke down south of Frederica. Another truck was secured after some delay and the gallows, which was taken from the New Castle workhouse arrived at Georgetown, three hours late.

John Cramer, center guard at the New Castle County Workhouse who has officiated at seven hangings and Captain William S. Weggenman, also a guard at the workhouse, looked after the preliminaries of the hanging of Skinner. They saw to it that the gallows was properly erected yesterday and today led Skinner from his cell and up the steps to his doom. Neither one of these men sprang the trap, however.

The trap was sprung from the kitchen of the Georgetown jail by means of a rope. The two men on the gallows with Skinner gave the signal to a man in the kitchen. The name of the person who sprung the trap was kept secret.

Skinner told his guards he had a father living in Baltimore and a mother in Philadelphia. He also had several brothers and sisters scattered over Delaware and Maryland. One of two lived in Philadelphia, he said.

History of Crime

The rope with which Skinner was hanged was specially made for executions by a New York firm. It arrived at the Sussex county jail on May 4, exactly one month after the commission of the crime. For several days it was greased and stretched on heavy sandbags to take the stretch out of it

The jury, before which Skinner was tried, convicted him on the assault charge after fifty-two minutes deliberation. A verdict of "guilty as indicted" was agreed upon on the first ballot which was not taken until after the jurors had discussed the case for three quarters of an hour.

Actual trial of the case lasted less than three hours. Court convened at 10 o'clock in the morning, but a jury was not selected until nearly 11 o'clock.

The State, represented by Attorney-General Southerland, of Wilmington, and Deputy Attorney-General Cooke, of Georgetown, rested its case at 12.50 o'clock at which time the court recessed for luncheon.

At 2.15 o'clock when court reconvened, Charles W. Cullen, appointed by the court as defense counsel, announced that his client had no defense to offer. He had asked Skinner if he desired to take the witness stand. The defendant replied that he did not.

Mr. Cooke summed up the State's case between 2.18 and 2.26 o'clock. Mr Cullen rested the defense with the jury without making any argument The court delivered its charge and the jury retired at 2.57 o'clock, returning to the court room with its verdict at 3.49 o'clock.

Chief Justice Pennewill and Associate Judges Rice and Rodney sat as trial judges. The sentence of death was imposed by Chief Justice Pennewill at 4.15 o'clock.

Trial of the case did not attract great attention on the part of residents of the county. The crowd which sought admittance to the court room was much smaller than that which attended the trial of a sensational divorce case a few weeks before.

Skinner's assault on Mrs. Bennett paralleled somewhat the assault made by Harry Butler, 21-year-old Negro on Eleanora Steinmetz, 12 years old, of Bridgeville early last year.

Butler was hanged on the same gallows which took Skinner's life, on the morning of February 26 of last year, in the Sussex county jail enclosure. During Butler's trial several units of the Delaware National Guard were called out by the Governor for duty.

On the night of Skinner's attack on Mrs. Bennett, Herman Harris, a son of Mrs. Bennett by a former marriage, left home about eight o'clock. While walking along the road he passed a negro, who, later investigation showed, was Skinner. Passing Skinner he inquired if the stores in town were still open. Skinner replied in the affirmative. Both men continued walking, Harris toward town and Skinner on the road which passes the Bennett home.

Soon after her son left the house Mrs. Bennett went to bed, but not to sleep. Her bed is in a combination kitchen and bedroom on the first floor of the house. Mrs. Bennett left a lighted lamp on the kitchen table, as is her custom. She never sleeps in a darkened room.

Less than an hour after her son left, she heard heavy footsteps on the porch. Her sense of hearing is still keen. She knew, within a few seconds, that the footsteps were those of a stranger. She became frightened but did not scream.

The kitchen door suddenly opened A tall heavily built, negro stood in the doorway. The light from the lamp fell on his face but Mrs. Bennett could not recognize him, because the lamp was between her and the intruder The man, later proved to be Skinner walked to the table upon which the lamp was placed, and cupping the top of the chimney with one hand, blew out the light.

The room was in darkness. Mrs Bennett screamed and tried to arise She groped in the darkness for her crutches, hoping to locate one of the two near her bed, to use as a weapon She was grabbed about the throat by Skinner. She struggled and screamed again. The negro placed a hand over her mouth to stifle her screams. He assaulted her and within a few minutes left the house, his victim lying partly on the bed and partly on the floor in a semi-conscious condition.

At ten o'clock Harris returned home. His mother sobbed out her story. State police were summoned. Footprints were found leading from the house to a side road. They were followed and soon their trail led up to the home of Skinner's brother, Medford, about two miles away. Skinner was sleeping with his clothing on in an upstairs room. His features tallied with Mrs. Bennett's description.

Skinner was taken back to the Bennett home where Mrs. Bennett identified him. He was grilled but denied his guilt. Police say he signed a confession later.

On the morning of his trial Skinner told his attorney and a newspaperman that he did enter the Bennett home the night of the assault with the intent to rob. He also denied he assaulted the woman.

NEWS
WILMINGTON, DEL.
MAY 28 1927

Negro Hanged In Georgetown Asks Forgiveness; Bids All Farewell

50 VIEW EXECUTION

Relatives Absent, Body Is Buried In Potter's Field Without Ceremony

By a Staff Correspondent

GEORGETOWN, May 27 — Carl Skinner, 27-year-old negro, paid with his life on the gallows here today for his attack on Mrs. Julia A. Bennett, 35-year-old cripple, of near Bridgeville, on April 4. Neither Mrs. Bennett nor her son, Herman Harris, were present at the execution.

Suffering from rheumatism, which had practically paralyzed his right leg, Skinner was led from the jail into the courtyard at 10.05 o'clock, and within two minutes had been assisted up gallows steps by two guards and the black cap placed over his head. At 10.08 the trap was sprung, but he was not pronounced dead until 10.31, and within 12 minutes after being pronounced dead his body was cut down. His neck was broken.

None of the disorders that marked the execution of Hary Butler, negro, here on February 26 of last year, prevailed at the hanging today. The actual hanging was witnessed by about 50 persons, including members of the State Highway Police, and although more than 200 persons gathered outside the jail yard, there was no shouting or any evidence of rowdyism. Included in the crowd that gathered outside were people from Maryland and Virginia, as well as some fro mmany nearby towns who had gathered hoping that they might get a glimpse of the condemned man or that the gates would be thrown open after the execution and they could view the body, as was done when Harry Butler was hanged.

Up until the last minute it was expected that some member of Skinner's family would appear to claim the body, but Rev. H. Y. Arnett, negro minister of Wilmington who was with the condemned man until he mounted the gallows, announced that he had searched in Philadelphia for Skinner's mother and had communicated with Baltimore in an effort to locate his father, but had been unable to do so. Skinner's wife, who is living in Marion, Md., refused to claim the body, as had his three brothers and sisters. After the body was cut down, it was taken to Potter's Field, about two miles south of here, and buried.

Condemned Man Calm

Up until the very end Skinner displayed that calmness which had marked him from the time he was convicted in the Court of Oyer and Terminer here on April 26. He arrived here at 3.10 o'clock, standard time, this morning, and shortly after arriving went to sleep and slept until called by Sheriff William G. Bryan at 7.10 o'clock. He then ordered a breakfast of sirloin steak, fried potatoes, strawberries, coffee and rolls, and after finishing breakfast went for a short walk around the courtyard, where the scaffold was erected, accompanied by two guards. Shortly after returning to his cell he was joined by his two spiritual advisors, Rev. H. Y. Arnett, and Rev. Walter G. Barlow, a white minister, pastor of the Hebron M. E. Church here.

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Legal Punishment for Rape.

Asks Forgiveness

After he mounted the scaffold and before the noose was placed about his neck, he was asked if he had any last words and replied: "Farewell all. Lord bless you all. May I be forgiven for all my sins. Meet me in Heaven. Farewell."

On the gallows platform with him were William G. Weggerman and John Graender, guards from the New Castle County Workhouse, who arranged the noose and black cap over his head and gave the signal to spring the trap. The trap was sprung from somewhere in the house, and although the identity of the person who sprung it is being kept a secret it is generally understood that it was one of the prisoners in the jail.

Ten minutes after the trap had been sprung he was examined by Drs. G. Frank Jones and Frank Farlow, both of Laurel, who announced that his heart was still beating although he had ceased to breathe, and 18 minutes later they pronounced him dead. When cut down and placed in a casket the black mask was not removed from his face, and a small prayer book and crucifix, which had been given to him while at the New Castle County Workhouse, were buried with him, as he had requested.

The gallows on which he was hanged was brought here from the New Castle County Workhouse late yesterday afternoon, and erected by the two guards from the workhouse and Sheriff Bryan, assisted by several prisoners in the jail here.

Skinner did not leave the workhouse until shortly after midnight, standard time. On the way down he told his guards that he was prepared to meet his fate and that he had no ill feeling toward anyone. He said he was sorry for what he had done and had "lost his head" when he attacked the aged white woman while she was sleeping at her home. He expressed himself as being grateful that none of his relatives had visited him at the workhouse, and declared that their staying away, made it esier for him. During most of the trip he remained quiet, but shortly after passing Magnolia he started singing hymns, which he kept up until the party had nearly reached Georgetown.

Before leaving the workhouse he left a message there for Arthur Brewington, another negro prisoner, in which he urged that all the prisoners in the workhouse lead a better and more religious life.

Throughout the night he spent here he was guarded by Lloyd I. Jefferson and Henry Clay Hitchens, both of near Laurel, who acted as a death watch. Nine members of the State Highway police, under the direction of Corporal R. D. Ingram, acted as guards about the workhouse during the execution.

Skinner was convicted in the Court of Oyer and Terminer here on April 26 by Chief Justice Pennewill and Associate Judges Rice and Rodney during a trial that lasted only one day. The death sentence was imposed three weeks after his attack upon Mrs. Bennett.

WHITE ATTACKER IS GIVEN HEAVY SENTENCE

WILMINGTON, Del., July 27.—Found guilty of attacking 73-year-old Sarah Harrison, a 26-year-old white man, Max Geller was fined $500 and sentenced to three years imprisonment by Deputy Judge Lynn in Municipal court Saturday.

It was said that the white man went to Little Miss Harrison's home during the absence of her parents under the pretense of borrowing a ladder. He made indecent proposals to the little girl and when she threatened to tell her mother he attacked her. She put up a fierce struggle, however, and frightened the man off with her screams.

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CONGRESS ACTS WHEN GIRL IS ATTACKED ON U. S. CAPITOL GROUNDS

Southern Senator Introduces Bill To Reward One Who Captures Criminal Responsible For Crime

WASHINGTON, Feb. 23.—A resolution proposing rewards for the capture of the man who assaulted Miss Daisy Welling in the Capitol Grounds Saturday night was introduced in the Senate and House, while the victim, a telephone operator employed by a hotel bordering the capitol's parkway, was in a hospital in a critical condition.

The Senate accepted the resolution introduced by Senator Blease, Democrat, South Carolina, which offered $1,000 reward. Representative Edwards, Democrat, Georgia, proposed a $5,000 reward in a measure he introduced in the House.

Edwards' resolution recited what he described as almost daily press accounts of lawlessness in the national capital, including assaults, robberies and other crimes which he said, indicated a lack of police protection and merited action by Congress.

Former Colored Army Officer Given Seven Thousand Dollars Allowance

Washington, March 10.—A bill passed by Congress allows the sum of $7,897 to William Green, a colored, former army officer of Virginia, for pay and allowances which were disallowed him while absent from the army for nearly five years, said absence being because of his confinement in the South Carolina penitentiary for that period.

Congressman Harry St. George Tucker, of Virginia and Senator Overman, of North Carolina, were instrumental in getting the allowance bill through Congress on Green's behalf. The President has affixed his signaturre to the bill, thus making it law.

Green, a warrant officer in the army, was "absent" from the army from January 21, 1923, to September 15, 1925, serving a penitentiary sentence. Upon presentation of evidence to the Governor of North Carolina showing Green's innocence of the crime charged, which was criminal assault, the Governor unconditionally pardoned him.

Green's wife lives in Staunton, and a Staunton lawyer, Herbert Taylor, formerly of Virginia legislature, asked Mr. Tucker to take charge of the bill in the House.

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Georgia.

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Negro Executed 30 Days After Crime Committed

Milledgeville, Ga., October 26.—(AP) Roy Pryor, Monroe county negro, went to the electric chair here today exactly 30 days after he had attacked an aged white woman of the Dames Ferry community. He was placed in the chair at 11:45 a. m. and two "shots" of current were necessary to carry out the court sentence.

The capture, trial, conviction and execution of Pryor are believed to set a new record for speedy justice under present Georgia laws. The negro had confessed before the trial, and he reiterated his acknowledgment of guilt before entering the death cell today.

On September 25 Pryor, a convict on the Monroe county gang serving a short term for a minor offense, escaped and eluded searchers. Late the following afternoon, September 26, the aged and respected woman was attacked while in a garden in the rear of her home, in a quietly settled section.

On September 27 Pryor, captured by a posse of private citizens, was identified by the victim. The posse delivered the negro to Sheriff Carey Bittick with request for a speedy trial. Bittick secured a confession from the negro and the trial was held in a special court term October 5.

JASPER NEGRO DIES IN CHAIR

Milledgeville, Ga., November 11.—(AP)—George Clark, Jasper county negro, convicted of an assault on the wife of a prominent farmer in that county in October, went to his death in the electric chair at the state farm here at noon today. He was pronounced dead in 12 minutes, after he had been given the second electric shock.

Judge B. H. Dunaway, farm superintendent, had charge of the execution. He stated that plans were being made to increase the electric power voltage into the death section of the prison so that one shock would be all that would be necessary in future executions of this kind.

Clark was tried in Macon with Judge J. B. Park presiding, and convicted of a very brutal assault upon the Jasper county woman. His trial was transferred to Macon on a change of venue. Officers searched for him for two days after the crime before he was located. After his arrest, he made a confession. The negro was first captured by Burney Key, negro, who held him for the sheriff of Jasper.

The burial of the negro took place today at the state farm as no relatives were present to claim the body.

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Illinois.

2484

TRIBUNE
CHICAGO, ILL.
OCT 25 1927

AN ASTONISHING FAILURE OF JUSTICE.

When a jury in Cook county can hand down a verdict of one year in the penitentiary as the punishment for the rape of a sixteen year old girl, then it is time to ask what manhood is coming to. Such a verdict was handed down in the Criminal court and Judge Harry B. Miller termed it a travesty on justice. Fortunately for the state defense counsel moved for a new trial; the plea was granted, and justice may yet be done.

That the girl was colored does not change the complexion of the crime. A colored girl has the same right to protection that a white girl has. The plight of a woman victimized, regardless of the tint of her skin, should arouse the same instinct to protect and punish in the men of the community—unless, indeed, there is something lacking in today's manhood.

There is something the matter when cases of rape can increase as they are increasing and when one of the few chances to make an example of a rapist is met with a verdict such as that in the recent instance. The normal instinct of men is to go to any length to protect womanhood and to punish, even beyond justice or reason, any one who attacks women.

Are men stupid enough to think that modern womanhood, with its new independence and freedom, is not as virtuous as old fashioned womanhood and as worthy of protection against a danger against which woman alone—no matter how independent—cannot protect herself? Or is something else the matter, perhaps with men themselves?

justice. In view of the fact that public opinion through the legislature has made the crime of rape punishable by a maximum sentence of life imprisonment, 10 years is lenient.

Rape, especially the rape of young girls, has become an all too common crime in Chicago. Scarcely a fortnight goes by without the occurrence of an attack upon some woman or girl. Attempts at rape are still more frequent. It seems that the criminal, bold with his successful banditry with gun and automobile, has determined to satisfy an even more depraved side of his nature. From now on, unless this lustful crime is checked, a citizen's wife and daughter are to be no safer than his pocketbook.

Heinous in itself, rape becomes despicable when the crime transgresses an unwritten social law set up and respected by the best elements of both the white and black races. Miscegenation is not a crime in Illinois, but it receives a social punishment as relentless as any in the statute books. Black people and white people denounce it as reprehensible and against every good interest of what is at best a problem almost impossible of settlement.

The jury's decision last Saturday in this rape of a Colored girl by a white youth will serve as a long needed warning against a breach of the written law punishing the violation of womanhood and of the unwritten law designed to promote a relation of mutual respect between the two races.

OTHER PAPERS SAY

JUSTICE TO A RAPIST

[Chicago Tribune]

In a fashion, to restore a waning confidence in the efficacy and integrity of the law, justice has been vindicated in Chicago. The case is that of the rape of a 16-year-old Colored girl by a young white man. A jury last Saturday sentenced the girl's attacker to 10 years in the penitentiary.

It was his second trial. A jury in the first case had decreed a sentence of one year. The prosecutor's office declared the jury's decision a miscarriage of justice. The court agreed and advantage was taken of a motion of defense counsel for a new trial. The 10-year verdict was the result.

The 10-year vedict, we believe, represents

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Indiana.

2480

TWO SENTENCED FOR RAPE; THREE MORE FACE TRIAL

Shelbyville, Ind., Aug. 10.—[Special.]—Theodore Seitz, 22, found guilty of raping a 17 year old girl, has been sentenced from five to twenty-one years in the Indiana reformatory.

Seitz and Raymond Dehoe, found guilty in connection with the same offense a week ago, have been taken to the reformatory.

Robert Kettler, held on a similar charge, will be tried Thursday and the cases of Raymond Muir and Edward Hungate, also held on similar charges, will be called as soon as the Kettler case is ended. The five men are charged with attacking Miss Josephine Cord.

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Kansas.

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COFFEYVILLE ASSAULT TRIAL DATE JULY 15

Kennedy to Be Tried Then But Mooney Girl May Go to September

INDEPENDENCE, Kas. — Ira Kennedy, who with Julia Mooney, Coffeyville high school girl, is accused of assaulting Miss Margaret Akers, another Coffeyville high school girl one night in March 17, will be tried in district court here July 15.

Walter S. Keith, city attorney of Coffeyville, has been designated by the attorney general as special representative for the state in the prosecution.

Julia Mooney, who is accused of being an accomplice to the assaulting of the Akers girl, may not be tried until September. A motion is before the court here to pass all criminal cases over to the September term of court where the defendants have furnished bond. The Mooney girl has furnished bond of $5,000. Kennedy has not furnished bond and, if the motion passes, will be tried July 15.

ASSAULT CASE SET FOR JULY

Kans. Attacker Who Placed Crime On Negroes Resulting In Race Riot Goes On Trial July 15

INDEPENDENCE, Kans., June 29—The date for the trial of Ira Kennedy, 30-year-old white shoe salesman of Wichita, Kans., charged with attacking Margaret Aiker, 17-year-old Coffeyville white high school girl March 17 and blaming the deed on Negroes resulting in a race riot in Coffeyville March 18, has been set for July 15.

Date for the trial of Julia Mooney, 19-year-old white girl companion of the Aiker girl charged with being an accessory in the attack, has not been set.

Walter S. Keith, Coffeyville city attorney has been named by the attorney general's office to act as special representative for the state in the prosecution of Kennedy and the Mooney girl.

[illegible] before the court to pass all criminal cases to the September term [illegible] where the defendants can [illegible] would this be acted on favorably. Kennedy, who has not given the [illegible] 000 bond, may stand trial in July and the Mooney girl in September, as she has furnished bond.

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NEGROES DENIED RETRIAL IN ATTACK ON WHITE GIRL

Louisville, May 7.—(AP)—Federal Judge Charles I. Dawson Saturday denied the petition of counsel for Nathan Bard and Bunyan Fleming for a new trial on charges of an attack upon a 16-year old white girl at Madisonville. The negroes will be hanged May 13. New trial was sought on the ground that the negroes were denied a fair [illegible] but the court declined to uphold the petition.

DEPOSITIONS ARE TAKEN TO SAVE NEGROES' NECKS

Judge Will Oppose Freeing Pair Convicted For Criminal Assault.

MADISONVILLE, KY., April 9.—(AP)—Depositions of jurors who served in the Bunyan Fleming and Nathan Bard attack cases were taken by county officials here today for use in the habeas corpus hearing for the negroes in the federal district court at Louisville next Thursday.

Bard and Fleming, who were under senetence to die for attacking a white girl and who were granted a stay of execution until May 13 by Governor Fields when federal court intervened and saved them from hanging here April 8, still are in the Eddyville penitentiary.

B. N. Gordon, an attorney, will go to Smithland tomorrow to preside over the Livingston circuit court for Judge Rudy Laffoon, who will be occupied opposing the habeas corpus maneuver of the negroes.

White Assailant of Colored Girl Will Have Long Time To Regret

$1000 Fine Means 1000 Days Additional

The Louisville Branch of the N. A. A. C. P. won a great victory for right and justice when Charles Falone, white, was given five years in jail at hard labor and $1000 fine in Criminal Court Wednesday, for his brutal attack on Alberta Howard, Colored.

This was Falone's second trial for alleged rape of this young woman. The first trial resulted in a hung jury. It is said that certain members o fthat jury were in favor of giving him the death penalty and others favored a long term in the penitentiary, but one, Joe Backert, a grocer out in a Colored neighborhood, 1601 Garland avenue, is said to have held out for an absolute dismissal and thereby hung the jury.

Tuesday the case was called again and this time a rather high class set of men were secured as jurors.

The girl, Alberta Hunter, a poorly trained and uneducated girl, told her story of how she was gathered at a dark intersection of streets in Portland one night by Falone, who pulled her forced her down on the city dump and there assaulted her.

Miss Hunter was a poor witness in her own case. Her story had all the appearances of truth but the way she told it was unconvincing.

Falone, and a number of his white friends, tried to show the girl had "solicited" them and he went with her but had no money to "pay off," so she fought him, and the bruises and bites she had on her face were his efforts at self defense.

One of his witnesses was "King" Lapelle, a ne'er-do-well, and police character, who testified the girl had "solicited" him a week before the alleged rape commited by Falone.

The "King" furnished the only comedy in this tragic case, as Prosecutor Otte showed him up as a liar and a man whose word could not be beileved.

The jurors had to laugh as did the white and colored people in the court room, and even Lapelle laughed as Mr. Otte showed him to be a man of poor reputation.

Mr. W. Clarke Otte, assistant commonwealth attorney, made another great speech to the jury in which he declared if this was a Negro man and a white girl, the man would hav been "gone long ago." Mr. Otte clared that Colored citizens ex ted to get justice in the courts a he was there to see that they got it.

He said Falone was a liar and so were all his witnesses. He had introduced nearly 20 police officers to show that Falone had a bad reputation. Mr. Otte made a speech that evidently impressed the jury. He was assisted in the prosecution by Mr. Charles Sumner Hall, Colored attorney, employed by the N. A. A. C. P. and by Mrs. Bertha Whedbee, Colored policewoman, who kept in touch with the girl and saw to it that she was on hand at the trials.

The jury was out one hour and forty minutes and brought in a verdict of "assault and battery" and a sentence of "five years in jail at hard labor and $1000 fine."

Many people thinking of Fleming and Bard, say the sentence is too light and is unfair.

But persons who attended the trial and noted what a poor witness the girl made fo rherself and what a defense was offered are satisfied. The 5 year jail sentence is better than a penitentiary sentence, because Falone cannot be paroled under a jail sentence. The $1000 fipe, unless paid means 1000 days in jail in addition to the five years.

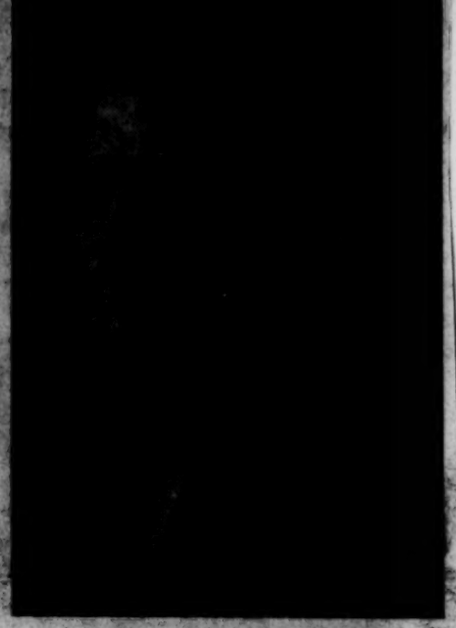
So Mr. Falone will have a long time to meditate and be sorry for his attack on "this nigger girl,, as he said o nthe stand.

His conviction will serve as a warning to other white rascals who think defenseless Colored girls are easy prey for their lusts and passions.

PACKED COURTROOM HEARS OTTE TRY ALLEGED RAPIST FOR HIS LIFE

PROSPECTIVE JURORS WHO HESITATE TO HANG NOT ACCEPTED

The Criminal Court room was crwded Thursday by Colored and white people attracted to the trial of Charles Falone, white youth, charged and indicted for rape on Alberta Howard, 19 year old Colored girl.



MR. W. CLARKE OTTE
Prosecutor Who Made it Hot For Falone.

Mr. W. Clarke Otte, Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney, who has had a great reputation for convictions secured, prosecuted the case. Mr. Otte entered into this case with all the sincerity and earnestness that characterizes all his prosecutions. His open ing statement to the jury in which he declared he would prove Falone guilty of rape and would demand his life as the penalty for the crime made beads of sweat pop out on Falone's low brow.

Mr. Otte asked every prospective juror if he had any conscientious scruples about giving the death penalty in a case where a white man was charged with rape of a Colored girl and his guilt was proven beyond the shadow of doubt. Every one who hesitated was summarily dismissed by Mr. Otte. Quite a few indicated they would not vote for death for a white man against a Colored woman. Others were against death for anybody for any reason.

Falone was represented by two young attorneys, the Davidson Bros. They fought hard for their client and gave early evidence they would appeal to the Color prejudice of the jury.

They asked every prospective juror if he read the Louisville Leader, a Colored newspaper. They called on Mr. Charles S. Hall, Colored attorney to stand up and asked if any juror knew him. They called on Mrs. Wredbee, policewoman, to stond up. The idea evidently being to impress the juror that Falone was the victim of undue activities on the part of Colored people to convict him.

Nearly fifty men were refpsed by both sides and a second senire of jurymen had to be summoned before twelve were finally accepted.

Miss Howard, first witness, made a poor witness. She was stupid and her ignorance and lack of training was plainly in evidence. The young woman who is 19 years of age is unattractive, with no personality and unfortunately has had little schooling and her contacts with the world have not been of a very good sort. She told a story of Falone's dragging her down to a dark spot at 26th and High and assaulting her, then beating, biting and kicking her. The manner in which she gave her testimony was not of much value to the prosecution and Colored spectators who sympathized with her were relieved when she left the stand.

Officers Mike Lyons and Shouse of the 4th District Police gave strong testimony for the girl as did Dr. J. O. Catalan.

ATTORNEY CHARLES S. HALL
Employed by N. A. A. C. P. to Assist Prosecutor Who Did Good Work.

Falone, on the stand, made a sorry figure. He is a short fellow with a low brow and shifting eyes. He evidently was well drilled as he ran ahead of his attorney in his answers. He said the girl "solicited" him three different times and asked $2.00 for the price. The third time he yielded and went with her. When he failed to come across with the $2.00 he said the girl attacked him and he took up for himself. That was why her clothes were torn off and when found she had little on.

Mr. Otte made Falone contradict himself a number of times.

MRS. BERTHA WREDBEE
Police Woman Who Did Her Whole Duty.

Four young men friends of Falone told tales of seeing the girl approach Falone and heard her say "$2.00" and heard him say "I'll be there in a minute." Mr. Otte made liars out of them. One Clyde Hardin, of High Bridge, Ky., testified the girl worked where he boarded and he declared boldly and brazenly he had had immoral relations with her, several time. His reason for telling his story was, he said, "to see justice done" as he did not think Falone was gettig justice. Other witnesses said Falone's moral character was good. Mr. Otte produced many more who said it was bad. Officer Gates was asked if he had not said he hoped Falone would be hanged. He answered yes he thought so if he was guilty. The trial consumed all day Thursday and court was adjourned at 10 p. m. to begin at 10 a. m. Friday.

One thing stands out, the Prosecuting Attorney is doing his best to convict Falone.

BARD, FLEMING GET 2ND STAY OF EXECUTION

Frankfort, Ky., June 22. — A second stay of execution, this time until July 15th, was granted Nathan Bard and Bunyan Fleming, by Governor Fields to-day. The two were convicted of an attack on a young girl last year.

The action was necessitated because of the failure of the United States Circuit Court of Appeals at Cincinnati to dispose of the appeal of the condemned men from Judge Dawson's decision in Louisville, in May.

The federal court adjourned yesterday, but recess action is expected by state authorities.

The two men, who are of Hopkins county, were convicted of an attack on a white girl and sentenced to hang at Madisonville, in May. On the eve of the execution they filed a petition for habeas corpus hearing and Governor Fields stayed the execution. When their petition was denied they immediately filed an appeal. They are in the penitentiary at Eddyville.

Raymond Davis, slayer of William Nelson Fant at Lexington, and Robert Conard, convicted of slaying another colored man, run the total of those sentenced to die July 1st, to fourth as they are to be electrocvuted on that date.

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To Hang April 8th

FRANKFORT, KY.—Governor [illegible] Fields [illegible] April 8 as the day Bunyon Fleming and Nathan Bard, charged with criminal assault are to be hanged at Madison, Ky.

Crime Carries Death Penalty

Colored Lawyer To Prosecute White Assailant Of Colored Girl

Most Brutal Attack In City History

Last Friday the grand jury brought in a true bill against Charles Falone, white, and indicted him for rape of Miss Alberta Howard, 19 years old colored girl.

The penalty for such a crime is death.

Attorney CHARLES H. HALL
Employed by N. A. A. C. P. To Assist In Prosecution of Falone

Falone was arraigned in Police Court Monday and his case was set for the Criminal Court March 23, and he was remanded without bail.

The case as reported in this paper last week stands out as the most brutal attack of a man on a woman in the history of the city.

Police officers who arrested Falone and caught him in the act of assaulting the young woman, were just as bitter in their denunciation of the man this week as they were the night he was apprehended. The fact their bitterness has not died down is evidenced the outrage must have been brutal in the extreme. Visitors, to the hospital who saw the young woman could hardly believe the attack was made by a human being. Her face was a mass of bruises and bites; her ear was lascerated, her cheeks and lips bitten horribly. Dr. J. O. Catalan has been employed and will testify in court as to the nature of her wounds.

Because of the fact the white papers did not say a word about this brutal crime, Colored citizens,—nor others—did not know of it until The the News and another Negro paper exposed it.

Indignation ran high and various organizations took action. One of them, the old reliable N. A. A. C. P., and a meeting of the executive committee and employed Mr. Charles Hall Colored attorney, to assist the Commonwealth in the prosecution of Falone. This was not done as a reflection on the ability or the integrity of the Commonwealth's Attorneys but as an evidence that Colored people want justice for this unfortunate young woman.

Negroes believe in the reign of law and order. No matter how outrageous a crime they are willing to wait upon the courts for action, but they want to see the law applied and enforced against White and Black criminals alike.

Mr. Hall is a graduate of Howard University law school. He has the dignity and the commonsense to know how to handle such a situations, as he has a great deal of practice in the local courts.

It matters not whether a white woman is outraged by a Black man or a Colored Woman is the victim of a white man, **Womanhood Must Be Protected** and the man, White or Black, should be made to pay.

Colored Louisville will wait and watch and compare the working of the law's machinery in this case with its fast and severe work in the other cases.

to the two men filed an opinion saying that it was granted because human lives were involved and that he thought it proper that the Supreme Court should have an opportunity to decide whether it would review the case.

[illegible] Madisonville, Ky. They have been sentenced to hang on half a dozen different days but appeals to the Kentucky court of appeals, federal circuit court, U. S. court of appeals and now the supreme court have been made.

SUPREME COURT JUSTICE HALTS DEATH PENALTY

Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jurist, Stays Execution of Bard And Cleming

Special to Journal and Guide

Washington, D. C., Aug. 5—The execution of Nathan Bard and Bunyan Cleming has been stayed by Justice Oliver Wendel Holmes until the Supreme Court of the United States has had an opportunity to decide whether it would review the case.

The two men are under death sentence imposed on a charge of rape. They have filed a petition in the Supreme Court for a review of the case at its next term beginning in October.

The order by Justice Holmes was not announced by the clerk of the court until last Wednesday. It was issued July 14, the day prior to the expiration of a stay of execution granted July 9 by Justice Louis D. Brandeis.

In granting a stay of execution to the two convicted men, Justice Holmes filed an opinion declaring that it was granted because human lives were involved and he thought it proper that the Supreme Court should have an opportunity to decide whether it would review the case.

U. S. Supreme Court May Review Fleming-Bard Case

Louisville, Ky., July 8.—The Fleming-Bard case, which has attracted national attention for more than a year, will be carried to the United States supreme court. This announcement followed the decision of the federal court of appeals at Grand Rapids, Mich., which held that it could not interfere in the case of Nathan Bard and Bunyan Fleming, who were sentenced to die July 15 for an alleged criminal attack upon a white woman at Madisonville. The local branch of the N. A. A. C. P. and other organizations interested in the case have secured several stays of execution. Judge Chas. I. Dawson of the western Kentucky district issued a temporary stay restraining the men from the gallows last April. He refused to grant a permanent writ. An appeal was made to the federal court which decided that under existing circumstances federal courts can not interfere.

Bard and Fleming Case Before Supreme Court

WASHINGTON, D. C. (PNS)—The death sentence imposed upon Nathan Bard and Bunyan Fleming in Kentucky for rape has been stayed by Justice Holmes until the Supreme Court can pass upon their petition for a review at its next term beginning in October.

The order of Justice Holmes announced by the clerk of the court was issued only the day prior to the expiration of the stay of execution granted July 9 by Justice Brandies.

Justice Holmes in granting the stay

CONVICTED NEGROES GET STAY OF DEATH PENALTY

Men Have Been Sentenced To Be Hanged On Six Different Occasions

FRANKFORT, July 27—(AP).—Governor Fields will grant an indefinite stay of execution to Nathan Bard and Bunyan Fleming, who were to hang Friday July 29 his secretary, R. F. Fields, announced here tonight when informed by the Associated Press that Justice Holmes had stayed their execution [illegible].

The governor's secretary in announcing the stay said it would depend upon the action of the supreme court, explaining that the matter now rests with the federal courts.

The negroes were convicted last year of criminally attacking a white

WILD RUMOR SHE HAS CAUSES SENSATION; IF TRUE, FLEMING AND BARD WILL NEVER HANG!

Bunyan Fleming and Nathan Bard, whose cases have aroused as much feeling in Negro circles as have the cases of Sacco and Vandetti in other circles, may have a new lease on life.

Mr. G. P. Hughes, president of the N. A. A. C. P., received a message Wednesday or Tuesday that Mrs. Hollis, wife of Columbus Hollis, had changed her testimony. Columbus Hollis is alleged to have confessed he was with Fleming and Bard, the night a young white woman is said to have been raped. Hollis says he held her while the other two men outraged her. He was given 21 years in the penitentiary, where he has been visited periodically by white men who gave him cigars and fruits, etc. Fleming and Bard were given death sentences. The Louisville N. A. A. C. P. never did believe Hollis' story after sending Messrs. Robinson and Warley to talk with the men. It did not ring true and sounded fishy. Mrs. Hollis told the same tale her husband told, thus sending two men to death! Now it is said she changes her testimony and says she testified falsely in court.

Mr. Walter Robinson, Hopkinsville attorney, was employed by telephone to go to Eddyville and get Mrs. Hollis' revised version. Up to going to press noth-

ing further has been heard from Robinson. If Mrs. Hollis is conscience stricken and tells another story from the one that convicted these men it will be the greatest thing that ever happened and will justify the Louisville N. A. A. C. P., and everybody who ever gave a cent to save these men, for all the working and fighting they have done.

The rumor may not be true. Mr. Hughes received word by special delivery. Mr. Robinson was employed to act. As The News goes to press it has received no verification despite the fact it has tried hard to get Mr Robinson, Mrs. Fleming and Mrs. Bard over long distance telephone.

BARD-FLEMING CASE BEFORE SUPREME COURT

To Review Trial of Kentuckians

Washington, D. C., Nov. 4.—Then Kentucky record-breaking case involving the lives of Nathan Bard and Bu-

Fleming, who were given one of the quickest and shortest trials on record, is ready for argument in the supreme court of the United States. Both sides have filed their briefs.

The two condemned men are seeking a review of their conviction on a charge of criminal assault. Their execution was stayed last summer by Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes, who took the view that the supreme court should have an opportunity to decide whether the case should be reviewed.

Kentucky Opposes Review

The brief filed by Frank Daugherty attorney general of Kentucky, opposes a review of the conviction. The state declares that the presence of troops was of itself a complete guarantee against mob violence. It declares that the men were given a trial by due process of law and that the habeas corpus proceedings by which the men sought to have their conviction in the state court set aside by the United State district court for the western district of Kenucky couid no be used to obtain a review in the supreme court.

If the supreme court should review the case and set aside the conviction mob violence will result, the state of Kentucky says in its brief. "To the delays and uncertainties in the courts will be added another instance tending to encourage lawlessness and criminal acts, and these, in turn, will provoke the slumbering tendency to mob violence," it says in asking the supreme court to weigh its impotency against the lives of these men.

Counsel for the condemned men declare that the question in the case is "whether these humble petitioners being citizens of the United States are or are not entitled to the equal protection of the 14th amendment of the Constitution of the United States." They insist that Bard and Fleming "did not waive their constitutional rights to an orderly trial and equal protection of the laws, and they have not had these rights, and we respectfully assert that under the evidence in this record should they be executed, they would be executed in violation of these rights guaranteed them by our Constitution."

They argue that the men were convicted under the forms of law and not under a due process of law, and not with equal protection of the laws and of their rights.

Troops Called Out

Nathan Bard and Bunyan Fleming were indicted on April 23, 1926, by a grand jury of the circuit court of Hopkins county, Kentucky. They were charged with criminally assaulting Nellie Catherine Breithaupt, a 16-year-old white girl, on the night of April 7, 1926. Three days later they were put on trial. They had only Saturday and Monday in which to secure counsel and prepare to defend their lives. They were tried, convicted and given the death penalty; a motion for a new trial overruled, and the death sentence pronounced, all within three days.

COURT HOLDS EDITORS FOR 'LYNCH LIBEL'

Warley and Cole Are Cited in Contempt

Frankfort, Ky., Dec. 23.—William Warley, editor of the Louisville News, and I. Willis Cole, editor of the Louisville Leader, lost their case Friday and were ordered by the state court of appeals to pay their fines of $250 each for libeling Judge Ruby Laffoon, who presiding at the murder trial of Nathan Bard and Bunyan Fleming.

Bard and Fleming were recently hanged at Madisonville after having lost an appeal to the United States supreme court. They died maintaining their innocence of the charge of assaulting a young girl. Columbus Hollis, who was arrested on a charge of being an accomplice, turned state's evidence, insisted they were guilty.

Editors Warley and Cole, during the trial, which was one of the most sensational ever held in the state, referred to the case as "legal lynching coming." The state refused to transfer the case to another town when the defense charged racial prejudice was rampant in the court. The national guardsmen with fixed bayonets patrolled the streets during the stormy session of the court.

The prosecutor of the two accused men announced that the editors would be indicted under a statute which provided a maximum penalty of 21 years' imprisonment. However, he found that this statute had been repealed, so the case was made one of libel. The editors appealed from the decision of the lower court. There are chances that the case may be carried to the United States supreme court.

Efforts are being made to have Hollis, who swore against Fleming and Bard, pardoned from serving a life sentence. Social and civic organizations of the state are preparing to fight every attempt to liberate the man who they consider sent the two accused men to their death.

Lynchings-1927
Legal Punishment for Rape.

Mississippi.

2466

NEGRO IS HANGED FOR ATTACKING GIRL

Jackson, Miss., July 22.—(AP)—Walter Burley, negro, was hanged here today for attacking a young woman at her home near here about a month ago.

The trap was sprung at 7:02 a. m., but the negro was not pronounced dead until 7:29.

Burley was indicted by the grand jury on charges of murdering and assaulting the girl after murdering her brother's wife, but he was tried only on the attack charge. The death penalty was imposed.

NEGRO SLAYER OF TWO WOMEN TO HANG JULY 22

Jackson, Miss., June 21.—(AP)—Walter Barley, Negro slayer of two women, was sentenced to hang July 22 at the conclusion of his trial here today. Shortly before the trial ended a boy exploded a firecracker near the courthouse and called National guardsmen into action but no shots were fired.

The Negro was tried under the protectio nof national guardsmen with both the public and newspapermen excluded from the courtroom. He was charged with criminally assaulting Miss Martha Rees.

MISSISSIPPIANS PREPARE FOR HANGING

Jackson, Miss., July 20.—(By A. P.)—In the Hinds county jail inclosure at the rear of the court house, may be seen several fathoms of new 1¼-inch manila rope hung to a cross-beam supporting the water tower. The bottom end of this bit of rope is wrapped securely around a half-ton of scrap iron the purpose being to stretch and test the rope that will be used by W. S. Wells, sheriff and ex-officio executioner, July 22, in carrying out the sentence of the court upon Walter Burley, convicted on charges of assault and double murder on the Rees dairy farm, near Jackson, the morning of June 3.

While the whereabouts of the condemned man is known only to a few, it is known that he will be returned to Jackson sometime prior to the date set for the official execution. The officers are not apprehensive of trouble when the execution day comes, but every precaution for promoting in an orderly manner the due process of the

CLARION-LEDGER
JACKSON, MISS.
JUL 24 1927

The Brute Has Paid the Penalty

The negro Burley has been hung. Justice in this case was swift.

Within less than six weeks from th day the heinous crime was committed b the negro brute, his body was hangin from the noose, which tightened aroun his neck until the last spark of life ha left his body.

Death is the penalty that will alway be paid for such crimes, and when thi penalty is inflicted without delay, as i this case, then will there be less cause fo mob violence, and less cause for citizen to arise in their wrath and mete ou justice.

Mississippi is better off today becaus the law took its course.

Without law, there would be chaos an confusion.

Life would not be safe;

Property would not be safe;

Churches could not carry-on, and scho houses would be unknown.

The members of the Reese family, wh have suffered in a way that it is impos sible for others to comprehend, hav shown the finest spirit of Christian citi zenship ever known in this or any othe state.

The brute has been hanged but it i with heavy hearts that they turn back to their daily tasks; they have the sym pathy of thousands of friends, they have the prayers of church people, and there is One to whom all may turn in time of trouble, but with all these the way is dark ahead for the loved ones here.

Their friends, outraged at the heinous crime, had difficulty in holding themselves in bounds, and they are to be congratulated and commended for letting the law takes its course.

The impulse of red-blooded men in cases of this kind, is to make quick work of the guilty party; Jackson is fortunate, Mississippi is fortunate that these men held themselves in check, while the mandate of the court was being carried out.

The officers of Hinds county and Mississippi are to be commended for the prompt and positive manner in which this case was carried through the courts, and the criminal to conviction and to execution.

Be it said to the credit of the men of Jackson, Hinds county and Mississippi, from the man who sat on the jury to the soldier who stood guard, not a one of them asked to be relieved of the unpleasant task—every one of them, realizing th importance of upholding the law, responded to the call of duty. The courts may have seemed slow to them, but they knew that was the best way to travel—in the end.

While we cannot all see clearly, now, as time clears the mists away, we will realize that the majesty of the law must be upheld.

CLARION-LEDGER
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Date For Death Penalty Fixed

The negro Burley has been convicte and sentenced to hang.

The date fixed is about the earlies possible, to conform to the law.

Those who fret and justify mob violence on the ground of the law's delay, should certainly be satisfied in this case.

The negro was given two good lawyers to see that he got a fair trial.

They saw to that.

An appeal to the supreme court would accomplish nothing, serving only to delay execution.

Therefore, an appeal will not be taken.

The negro was given protection and every right under the law to a fair trial.

He has gotten that.

Now, that he has been convicted and a definite date set for his execution, there should be no more talk of lynching, and The Clarion-Ledger does not believe there will be.

Within thirty days the fiend in human form will be hurled into eternity, there to meet his Maker, and there again and through eternity to pay the penalty for this and other crimes committed by him.

The court officials are to be congratulated upon the thorough and prompt manner in which they handled this case.

The members of the national guard are to be commended for the prompt manner in which they answered the call of their superior officers, doing their duty as soldiers, although it was an unpleasant one.

The citizens generally are to be commended for their self control under such trying circumstances.

The members of the Rees family, in urging that their friends let the law take its course have given the finest manifestation of Christian citizenship that has ever been shown in this or any other state.

A city, county, state or nation, without respect for law and authority cannot stand.

Our very civilization is built upon respect for authority, and regardless of how great the temptation may be at times to temporarily sidestep this, it cannot be done without lasting harm.

The negro will pay the extreme penalty fixed by law for his crime.

The good name of the Capital City has been saved.

Lynchings-1927

Missouri.

2473

Legal Punishment for Rape

Deny Woman's Plea to See Negro Assailant Hung

St. Louis, Mo., Feb. 19.—[U.P.]—The request of Mrs. Mabel Saenger to witness on Feb. 28, the hanging of Robert Johnson, a negro, has been denied by St. Louis county authorities. Johnson is under sentence to die for criminal assault on Mrs. Saenger last March.

Lynchings-1927

Legal Punishment for Rape.

New Jersey.

2474

72 YEARS FOR NEGRO IN JERSEY ASSAULT

Girl Victim Goes to Court in Camden to Hear His Sentence.

JUDGE GIVES HIM THE LIMIT

Tells Prisoner He Is Lucky to Be Alive, Mentioning Lynching in Another Community.

Special to The New York Times.

CAMDEN, N. J., Dec. 1.—Charles Howard, 43-year-old negro, of Camden, was sentenced today to seventy-two years at hard labor for attacking Miss Josephine Moffa, 18, a factory worker of Dunbarton, N. J., last week.

Swift-moving "Jersey justice" inflicted the maximum sentence on the five indictments pressed against Howard. Within an hour after he had been sentenced Howard was on his way to the State prison at Trenton.

Dry-eyed and apparently uninterested, Miss Moffa sat with relatives in the rear of the County Crimiial Court Room as Judge Henry Burt Ware pronounced sentence. Miss Moffa was discharged from the Cooper Hospital here last night. She was hardly able to walk, yet she insisted on going to court, saying "I must get there to see him get what is coming to him."

The confession made in the corridor of the Cooper Hospital after the girl had identified Howard was introduced as evidence and read into the court record, thus eliminating the necessity of Miss Moffa taking the stand.

Judge Ware then pronounced sentence. Howard stood transfixed as he heard himself doomed.

"You may count yourself lucky that you are alive," the Judge concluded. "In other communities where they prate of personal liberty a man of your race was hanged and burned not less than twenty-four hours ago for the offense of which you stand guilty. I am going to give you the maximum."

The five indictments charged Howard with criminal assault, robbery, assault with intent to kill the girl, carrying concealed deadly weapons, and assault with intent to kill Tony Germano, who tried to capture him. On the first charge he received fifteen years; the second, thirty; the third, twelve; the fourth, three, and the fifth, twelve.

Howard, police declare, has a long prison record. He has served a sentence in Tennessee for killing a woman, and had been discharged six weeks ago from the State Prison at Trenton for burglary.

Lynchings-1927
Legal Punishment for Rape

North Carolina.

2475

TROOPS PREVENT N. C. MOB

Youth Convicted Of Attacking Girl On Flimsy Evidence. Testimony And Alibi Useless.

WENTWORTH, N. C., Feb. 2—After being whisked about from place to place by officers to prevent a mob from seizing him, Paul Settles, a colored youth, was tried here Saturday while national guard troops surrounded the courthouse. In spite of his strong plea of his innocence and the testimony of nearly a score of witnesses coroborating his plea, he was convicted by a jury of a charge of attempting to attack a young white woman of Reidsville, N. C., and sentenced to 15 years in the penitentiary.

Settles was place on trial in Rockingham circuit court Thursday. He was accused of attempting to attack the girl Jan. 21. The defendant claimed an alibi and was supported by ten colored persons, who said that he was driving a truck elsewhere at the time of the alleged attack. The defense also contended that as the occurrence was before daylight, it was impossible for the prosecuting witness to distinguish his features and thus be sure of his identity.

The jury deliberated but 27 minutes. The sentence imposed is the maximum under the North Carolina State law.

Negro Found Guilty.

Wentworth, N. C., January 29.—(AP) Paul Settle, 23-year-old negro, was found guilty of attempted attack upon a young white girl and was sentenced to serve 15 years in the state penitentiary here this afternoon. The jury deliberated 27 minutes. Judge Thomas B. Finley imposed the maximum penalty the law allows.

COLOR OF MAN, NOT LAW, GIST OF DECISIONS

Sentences Meted Out Accordingly

Two white girls, one 11 years old and the other a high school girl of 16, made complaints to their parents that each had been the object of criminal attack by men. The little girl lives in the state of North Carolina and identified a young white man of High Point as her assailant while the older girl resides in the state of New Jersey and accused a man of the Race of attacking her.

In less than 24 hours after the alleged assault upon the high school girl took place, Jordon Morrison, 21, who testified that he came from Richmond, Va., pleaded guilty of assault and was sentenced by Judge Bartlett of Bridgeton, N. J., to serve 30 years at hard labor in the state prison at Trenton.

Justice was swift and sure. They carried him to the penitentiary that night. The judge had declared: "I wish that I could give you life." The victim stated that she was on her way to carry lunch to her father when the attack occurred.

In the court room of Greensboro, N. C., where Seaton Shipwash was tried for criminally attacking the 11-year-old girl Judge Thomas J. Shaw is quoted as saying: "I don't know what to think of such a man. I want to say here what I have said elsewhere—men, keep your dirty hands off these little girls."

The court then sentenced the white man to serve five years on the county roads and gave an order that he should wear stripes. While passing sentence the judge is alleged to have remarked: "There are entirely too many such cases coming up in the courts; there were no less than three of them in the term just concluded, and the age of the oldest of the girls alleged to have been attacked was but 11."

There was such a disparity in the two sentences that it is worthy of comment. We hold no brief for the rapist, and believe in punishment being meted out swift and sure according to law, which declares that a man must be punished for his crimes, not because his skin is of a darker hue.

The evidence in the case of the southern girl was so conclusive that a Race man could not be sacrificed for the crime, but the time is here when we must unite and ask the southern courts to protect their own little girls from the criminal assaults of its white men.

NEWS
NEWPORT, R. I.
DEC 19 1927

GOOD FOR GOLDSBORO.

The authorities of Goldsboro, N. C deserve the thanks of all the peopl of the United States. They appre hended, brought to trial, convicte and sentenced a Negro accused attacking and killing a young girl, i spite of the fact that the prisoner wa once in the hands of a mob whic shouted "String him up," and tried it best to do that. Yet the prisoner wa rescued from the mob, which, by th way, secured the man as he sat i court on trial. Thereafter the judg sat with an automatic pistol by hi side, which he threatened to use o the first person who made an ef fort to harm or capture the prisoner and a company of National Guar troops, armed, was stationed abou the court house, while a corporal an four privates surrounded the pris oner, rifles loaded, bayonets fixed Sixty hours after the body of the little girl was found her murderer was on his way to state prison, where, within less than a month from the time of the commission of the crime, he will hang.

The reputation of North Carolina has been saved from another blot against it and against the United States because those in charge of this man did their duty to him and their duty to the state. The United States has been spared one more black mark against its name, because of the determination and courage of the men of Goldsboro. Incidentally, it has been proved once more that courage and decency can prevent mob murders. If those elected to positions of authority are true to their oaths and possess courage, there will be no mobbings, no burnings at the stake, no horrible stories of torture and death, to be sent out to disgrace this country still further in the eyes of the world. This country owes a debt of gratitude to those men of Greensboro who did their duty.

Lynchings- 1927
Legal Punishment for Rape.

South Carolina.

2476

THREATEN TO LYNCH BOY IF "CHAIR" FAILS

If Insanity Pleas is Allowed, South Carolina Will Act, Threat

COLUMBIA, S. C.—Race feeling is running high in York county, in the northern part of this state. Threats are being made that if a plea of insanity made in behalf of William McKinley Thomasson, eighteen, is allowed by the courts and he escapes the electric chair to which he has been sentenced citizens of the county will take him from the state penitentiary and lynch him.

Early in the afternoon of June 25 Mrs. Frances Thomasson, seventy-eight, a white woman, whose family name had been taken by Negroes living nearby, was found on her husband's farm in the "Filbert community" of York county, with her throat cut. A man hunt was organized. Some one reported Thomasson had been seen on the farm. After an all night search he was found. He was saved from the crowd by police and brought to the state penitentiary here to prevent lynching.

Old-timers recalled that Thomasson's grandfather was lynched forty years before, accused of killing a white boy.

Thomasson was tried July 11, defended by lawyers appointed by the court, and he pleaded not guilty. Police who had saved him from the mob, however, testified he had confessed he had attacked Mrs. Thomasson and then killed her to cover traces of his original crime. The jury found him guilty and he was sentenced to be electrocuted August 12.

After the sentence Thomasson's lawyers said they had told the court they wished to have him examined by Dr. Fred C. Williams, head of the State Insane hospital at Columbia. The court refused to delay the trial until Dr. Williams could be subpoenaed to testify to Thomassons sanity, and gave his lawyers an order permitting Dr. Williams to examine him before August 1. It is not known whether Dr. Williams has made the examination.

Friends of the murdered woman's family now say funds have been supplied from a mysterious source, by a group of "Negro-lovers," to permit the insanity plea. Thomasson's lawyers deny they have received any money from any one. Meantime threats are being made freely in Filbert that unless Thomasson is executed August 12, he will be taken from the penitentiary and lynched.

Lynchings- 1927.
Legal Punishment for Rape.

Tennessee

2471

ALLEGED RAPIST SEN TENCED TO DEATH

Nashville, Tenn., Feb. 9.—(By A.N.P.)—After a deliberation of a scant ten minutes, the twelve men selected to determine whether or not Will Terrell, aged 21, was guilty of criminally assaulting an aged white woman here on January 21, declared the defendant guilty and the judge imposed the penalty of death. Attorneys for the defendant, however, made a motion for a new trial and Judge Chester K. Hart will decide upon the motion at a later date.

Witnesses for the defendant sought to prove that he was of unsound mind and was not responsible for the deed which he is alleged to have confessed committing, and it is thought that this will be the grounds for a new trial.

ALLEGED RAPIST SENTENCED TO DEATH

By Associated Negro Press)

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Witnesses for the defendant sought to prove that he was of unsound mind and was not responsible for the deed which he is alleged to have confessed committing, and it is thought that this will be the grounds for a new trial.

Negro Must Die

Nashville, Tenn., February 16.—(AP) Will Terrell, 21-year-old negro, was found guilty by a jury in the county criminal court today on a charge of criminal assault on the person of an aged white woman, and sentenced to electrocution. The jury was given the case about noon today and after lunch reported a verdict.

WOMAN'S CONFESSION REVIVES CASE OF MAURICE MAYES

White Woman Declares She Slew Mrs. Bertie Lindsay.

Did Mrs. Sadie Mendil, white woman, send a bullet into the body of Mrs. Bertie Lindsay, who was slain in her home on Eighth avenue, August 30, 1919? Maurice F. Mayes, young colored man, was charged with the killing, and following two trials of the case before the courts of Tennessee, Mayes was electrocuted.

In a sworn affidavit, voluntarily made before Mayor Charles I. Fuller, of Norton, Va., Mrs. Mendil declares positively that she is the slayer of Mrs. Lindsay and ascribes jealousy as her motive.

With a view of having the proper record of the woman's confession, Chief of Police V. W. Warren had the woman appear before Mayor Fuller at which time a stenographic record was made of her complete confession.

The following questions and answers were propounded:

Q. What is your name?

A. Sadie Mendil.

Q. You say you wish to make a statement about the murder of Bertie Lindsay in Knoxville, Tenn. about two years ago. What are your statements?

A. My husband was a traveling man, and I had good reasons to believe that my husband had improper relations with the Lindsay woman. I followed him to her house once in the night and saw him enter her house. Afterwards I saw them together on the streets. About two weeks after I first saw him go to her house at night I put on men's clothes and blackened my face and about midnight I entered her house through a window and found her in bed with another woman. I shot her once with a .45 calibre revolver. I then left the house through the window which I had entered at and ran from the house to the street, where my car was parked and drove back to Devonia, Tenn., where I was then living.

Q. Were you driving the car alone?

A. Yes.

Q. What time did you leave Devonia and how far is it from Knoxville?

A. I left Devonia about five o'clock in the afternoon and it is about fifty miles to Knoxville from Devonia.

Q. What time was it when you got back to your home in Devonia?

A. It was after daylight.

Q. What did you do with the revolver?

A. I sold it to a man in Devonia, I know his name but he does not live there anymore.

Q. Was it clear or cloudy on the night you refer to?

A. It was misting rain.

Q. How long did you stay at home after you did the shooting?

A. Only a few days, I left there and went to Chattanooga, Tenn. Later I got a divorce from my husband at Wartburg, Tenn.

Q. What was your husband's name?

A. John Roddy.

Q. Who was your attorney in the divorce case?

A. John M. Davis, Wartburg, Tenn.

Q. Have you married since that time?

A. Yes, I married Mack Mendil on the 14th of last month in Knoxville.

Q. Did you hear of anyone being arrested later for this crime?

A. Yes, I heard that Marcus Mays was arrested for the crime.

Q. Where are you living at present, and what is your husband's occupation?

A. My husband is a palm reader and we just go from place to place. We came here from Neon, Ky.

(Signed) SADIE MENDIL.

Aug. 17th, 1927,
Town of Norton, County of Wise, State of Virginia.

This day came Sadie Mendil before me, Chas. I. Fuller, Acting Mayor of the town of Norton in Wise County, Virginia, and after being duly sworn deposes and says that the foregoing statements bearing her signature to questions propounded to her by V. W. Warren, Chief of Police of the Town of Norton, Va., and in my presence are true, and that the foregoing statements are made voluntarily and of her own free will and accord and without objection to the same being used as evidence against her.

(Signed) CHAS. I. FULLER,
Acting Mayor of Norton, Va.

Story Given Little Credence

The story of Mrs. Mendil is given little credence by local police officers and citizens who are acquainted with the facts surrounding the mysterious slaying of the white woman more than eight years ago.

Maurice Mayes was arrested and convicted on evidence that has always carried along a serious doubt as to his guilt. Mayes protested his innocence to the very last and even as he sat in the electric chair at the Nashville state prison, he declared that he was innocent of the crime and charged his predicament to politics.

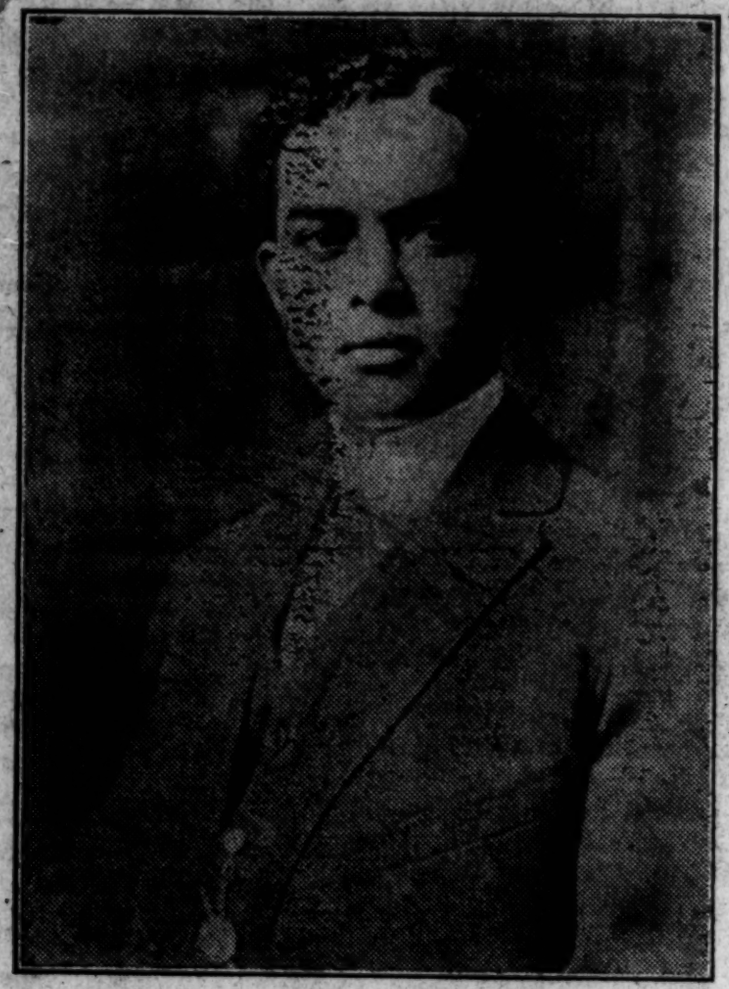
Mrs. Bertie Lindsay was killed by a midnight marauder at her home in a section of the city inhabited wholly by white people. She and a relative, Miss Ora Smythe, were the sole occupants of the house. The intruder afterwards described as a Negro, entered the house through a window and carried a flashlight. He is said to have told Mrs. Lindsay that if she screamed or moved he would shoot. When she jumped from the bed the intruder shot her, killing her almost instantly, whereupon the intruder fled from the home without doing injury to Mrs. Lindsay's bedmate, Miss Smythe.

On the night following the killing a mob formed, later storming the jail and precipitating a race riot in which two men were killed and sixteen injured. Mayes was removed to a jail at Chattanooga for safekeeping. He was indicted on a first degree murder charge on Sept. 3. The case was tried before Judge T. A. R. Nelson in the Knox county criminal court and resulted in a guilty verdict being returned and a sentence of electrocution. The case was appealed to the supreme court and that body returned the case to the lower court for another trial. The second trial resulted in a conviction and sentence to electrocution of Mayes and several months after he was forced to pay the death penalty.

Says Woman Demented

A statement recently furnished the local police department by the husband of the Mendil woman charges that she is demented and is suffering over her baby having been, taken from her. The husband is said to have told the police officers that the child is living somewhere in Indiana.

WOMAN'S CONFESSION REVIVES CASE OF MAURICE MAYES



MAURICE F. MAYES,

Electrocuted at the Nashville state prison two years ago following his conviction on the charge of slaying Mrs. Bertie F. Lindsay, white woman. Mrs. Sadie Mendil, white woman, has issued a sworn statement, telling that she was the slayer of Mrs. Lindsay and ascribes her motive as jealousy. Police officers discredit the woman's statement. Chief Haynes also tells that several other persons have appeared with confessions that they fired the shot that killed Mrs. Lindsay.

BLACK FACE MURDER

Maurice Mays was electrocuted for the supposed murder of a white woman down in Tennessee almost five years ago. He was convicted on the slenderest thread of circumstantial evidence. Mays during the ordeal of the trial and the legal warfare that followed prayed and appealed to sense of southern justice. He swore and avowed that he was innocent but to no avail. He was murdered by that system of southern tyranny and injustice that condemns any black man to die who is even suspected of being entangled with a white woman.

Now a white woman of the south confesses that she, not Mays, committed the murder. The state of Tennessee permits her to go scot free inasmuch as no charges have been preferred against her and because Mays has already paid with his life for her crime.

Southern society is not conscience-stricken. There are no regrets and no remorse. It also notices that the murderess admits that she blacked her face to do the dastardly deed. For these black face murders committed by white people hundreds of black martyrs have paid the price but they have not done so in vain and Mays in his sacrifice perhaps will make it a little easier for us in the future. Maybe the southern courts will hesitate before they take the life of another black man on slender evidence. The blood of Mays stains Tennessee.

GREENSBORO
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A CONFESSION OF MURDER.

Some five years ago Mrs. Bertie Lindsey was shot to death in bed in her home in Knoxville, Tenn. Another woman was in bed with her. A negro, Marcus Mays, was identified by this woman as the murderer. A mob marched on the jail where Mays was confined and demanded the prisoner, who was defended by the sheriff and his deputies. Troops were called and Knoxville was put under martial law. The negroes of the city are said to have armed themselves. Machine guns were mounted throughout the negro district. There was a clash between citizens and soldiery in which one officer was killed and several negroes were wounded. Mays was given a speedy trial, was convicted, and executed, protesting his innocence.

About a fortnight ago Mrs. Sadie Mendel, in Norton, Va., made affidavit to the following purport:

She was at the time of the murder the wife of John Roddy, of Devonia, Tenn. She believed she had cause for jealously of Mrs. Lindsey. She put on man's clothing and blacked her face, and about midnight entered Mrs. Lindsey's house, shot her, left through the window by which she had entered, ran to the street were her car was parked, and drove to her home in Devonia. The revolver she sold. She subsequently divorced her husband. Last month she was married in Knoxville to Mack Mendel, an itinerant palm reader. The confession, it is related in a dispatch from Norton to the Norfolk Journal and Guide, negro publication, followed a quarrel between husband and wife at a Norton hotel. The dispatch says the woman was released by the Norton police after a telephone message from Knoxville stated that "a negro had already paid the penalty for the crime and there was no charge against her."

The Journal and Guide assumes the truth of the confession which to it has "all the earmarks of genuineness," and conjectures that black faces not infrequently have paid the penalty for white crimes committed by blackened faces. The conjecture would hardly be warranted by this single instance, if established; and the story as related has hardly sufficient earmarks, or hallmarks, or other marks of genuineness to compel its acceptance. But there is enough of plausibility, it seems to the Daily News, to make it somebody's business to investigate. The declaration of the woman who proclaims herself murderess is circumstantial as to time, place, conditions of weather. It might not be a task requiring great detective talent to establish whether the circumstantial evidence incident to her declaration will hold together.

And it is perhaps somebody's business to find out. The organization in opposition to capital punishment comes first to mind. It cannot find much more effective instruments for its purpose than a certificate of execution for a crime subsequently proved to have been committed by someone else than the executed.

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Tennessee

2472

MRS. MENDEL, WHITE CONFESSES ACT WHICH CAUSED RACE RIOT

Colored Man Accused, Tried And Electrocuted For Murder Done By White Woman In Jealous Rage, According To Signed Statement Given Voluntarily To Norton Police, After Quarrel With Husband.

WOMAN IS RELEASED BY AUTHORITIES

Woman's Confession of Murder For Which Colored Man Died

The Confession

The following is the confession the white woman, Mrs. Sadie Mendel, formerly of Devonia, Tenn., gave Chief of Police V. C. Warren and Acting Mayor Fuller, of Norton, Va., of the murder of Mrs. Bertie Lindsey, of Knoxville, five years ago, a crime for which Maurice Mays, colored paid the death penalty:

Q. What is your name?
A. Sadie Mendel.
Q. You say you wish to make a statement about the murder of Bettie Lindsey in Knoxville, Tenn., about two years ago?
A. My husband was a traveling man, and I had good reasons to believe that my husband had improper relations with the Lindsey woman. I followed him to her house once in the night and saw him enter her house. Afterwards I saw them together on the streets. About two weeks after I first saw him go to her house at night I put on men's clothes and blacked my face and at about midnight entered her house through a window and found her in bed with another woman. I shot her once with a 45 calibre revolver. I then left the house through the window which I entered at and ran from the house to the street where my car was parked and drove back to Devonia, Tenn., where I was then living.
Q. Were you driving the car alone?
A. Yes.
Q. What time did you leave Devonia and how far is it from Knoxville?
A. I left Devonia about five o'clock in the afternoon and it is about fifty miles from Knoxville to Devonia.
Q. What time was it when you got back to your home in Devonia?
A. It was after daylight.
Q. What did you do with revolver?
A. I sold it to a man in Devonia. I know his name but he does not live there anymore.
Q. Was it clear or cloudy on the night you refer to?
A. It was misting rain.
Q. How long did you stay at home after you did the shooting?
A. Only a few days. I left there and went to Chattanooga, Tenn.
Later, I got a divorce from my husband at Wartburg, Tenn.
Q. What was your husband's name?
A. John Roddy.
Q. Who was your attorney in the divorce case?
A. John M. Davis, Wartburg, Tenn.
Q. Have you married since that time?
A. Yes, I married Mack Mendel on the 14th of last month in Knoxville.
Q. Did you hear of anyone being arrested later for this crime?
A. Yes, I heard that Marcus Mays was arrested for the crime.
Q. Where are you living at present and what is your husband's occupation?
A. My husband is a palm reader and we just go from place to place. We came here from Neon, Ky.

Signed, SADIE MENDEL

August 17th, 1927.
Town of Norton, County of Wise,
State of Virginia.

This day came Sadie Mendel before me, Chas. I. Fuller, Acting Mayor of the Town of Norton in Wise County, Virginia, and after being duly sworn deposes and says that the forogoing statements made in answer to questions propounded to her by V. W. Warren, Chief of Police of the Town of Norton, Va., and in my presence are true, and that the foregoing statements are made voluntarily and of her own free will and accord and without objection to the same being used as evidence against her.

CHAS. I. FULLER, Act. Mayor.

Special to Journal and Guide

White Woman's Confession

Norton, Va., August 20—According to a confession voluntarily made to Chief of Police V. C. Warren and Acting Mayor Fuller Friday, by a white woman, Mrs. Sadie Mendel, who with her fortune-teller husband came to this city Wednesday, Maurice Mays, a prominent colored man electrocuted in Knoxville, Tenn., about five years ago for the murder of Mrs. Bertie Lindsey, white, was innocent of the crime. Mrs. Mendell herself killed the Lindsey woman in a fit of jealousy, according to her own story, and his since roamed from place to place. She was released by the local police after a telephone message from Knoxville stated that a Negro had already paid the penalty for the crime and there was no charge against her.

Confessed After Quarrel

Following a quarrel with her husband at a local hotel where the couple was stopping, Mrs. Mendel went to the chief of police and declaring her conscience burned with guilt made her confession. She said that at the time she committed the murder her name was Mrs. John Roddy, and that she lived in Devonia, Tenn. Dressed in a man's clothes, she stated, with her face blackened, she entered the Lindsey woman's home through a window, found her in bed with another woman, shot her twice with a 45 calibre revolver, left the house through the window which she entered, ran to the street where her car was parked, jumped in and drove back to Devonia, where she was living.

Murder Prompted By Jealousy

Mrs. Mendel said she committed the murder because she had good reasons to believe that her husband was intimate with the Lindsey woman. A few night previous she had followed him to her home and had later seen him on the streets with the woman.

Mrs. Mendel and her husband, to whom she was recently married, arrived in Norton Wednesday and she went almost immediately to the police and volunteered her confession. She appeared much relieved after telling her story and said she wanted to go back to Knoxville to see her two-year old son who is living with friends.

Local officers who heard her story are inclined to believe it as it was told without mental distress or reservation.

History of Mays' Case

Maurice Mays, the colored man who paid the death penalty for the crime which Mrs. Mendel confesses having committed, was a rather prominent citizen of Knoxville. He had once been a deputy sheriff, according to information received by the Journal and Guide. Immediately after the murder of the Lindsey woman was discovered he was put under arrest and charged with the crime. He was regarded as a handsome man, rather good dresser and popular. H was in bed when the officers called at his home and arrested him. He protested his innocence and never ceased, to do that to the end. Th woman who was in bed with Mrs. Lindsey when she was killed, positively identified Mays as the Negro who committeed the crime.

Feeling throughout the city was tense and there was imminent possibility of a lynching. In fact a mob marched on the jail and demanded the prisoner but were repulsed by the sheriff and his deputies who fired into the crowd. The colored citizens armed themselves and prepared for eventualities. The State militia was called to the city and the town put under martial law. Machine guns were mounted throughout the Negro district, and in a clash between citizens and soldiers one officer was killed and several colored persons wounded.

Mays was given a speedy trial, followed by a hasty conviction. He protested his innocence and died declaring himself guiltless.

Mrs. Mendel's confession is printed

A Tragic Result of The Black Mask

Another sort of mask has entered into the activities of Southern criminals. The confessing by a white woman to the chief of police at Norton, Va., last week to the murder of another white woman in Knoxville, Tenn., five years ago, a crime for which a Negro has since been executed, gives tragic emphasis to the point made in an editorial in this paper a few weeks ago which called attention to the fact that the Negro race is frequently imposed upon and maligned by cowardly whites of criminal impulses who shield themselves from the consequences of their crimes by deliberately concocting circumstances calculat to cast the blame upon some colored person. This woman according to press dispatches, who evidently had never even been suspected in connection with the crime, calmly and without persuasion of any kind except a burning conscience, went to the police, told her story without mental distress or reservation, taking the full responsibility for the murder which she declares was committed under a jealous rage and then expressed a desire to return to Knoxville to see her two-year old son. Her straightforward recital of her story and her composed manner provoked belief in it by the local officers, but they had no alternative other than to release her when a phone message from the Knoxville police stated that a Negro had been executed for the murder and there was no charge against her.

Hers is a confession having all the earmarks of genuineness. She blackened her face, she said, donned a pair of pants, entered the home of her victim and slew her while she slept. She had the name of the slain woman correctly in mind. It is also true, we have learned, that the murdered woman was found in bed. The man who paid the death penalty for the crime protested his innocence to the last. The circumstances of the murder, the protestations of innocence of the man condemned to die for it and the confession of the woman to the Norton police fit in most tragically and scarcely leave room for doubting that she has told the truth. A blackened face and a pair of pants—any such creature glimpsed leaving or nearing the scene of the crime could have been nothing

else but a Negro man, and if some one had to pay the penalty for so dastardly a deed, certainly it had to be a Negro man, and in truth a Negro man paid with his life. Southern psychology could reason no other way in connection with a crime. Blackened faces may be on white persons in minstrels, on the stage or in other amusements, but in crime blackened faces are Negroes, nothing more or less.

How many black faces have paid the penalty for crimes committed by blackened faces, we do not know. The thing is terrible to contemplate, yet, we seem now to have another case in genuine actuality. And what is there to be done about it? Mays, the man convicted for the Knoxville crime has been jerked into eternity. The woman who confesses that she is guilty of the crime is at liberty. Her confession can now do Mays no good. He has paid the penalty, not for murder, according to the woman who has confessed, but for being a Negro. He was the victim of a blind psychology which forbids the exact appraisal of the checks and balances of evidence when a Negro stands accused of a crime against a white person. He was the victim of a malignant prejudice which the blackened face woman knew would be so aroused against the Negroes should she take just a little pains to palm her crime off on one of them, that it would be quite impossible for justice to pursue her.

How shall the Negro protect himself from this dangerous imposition by whites who lay their crimes upon his people is a question now bulking large before the race. Truly, this is one of our most stubborn problems. It is impossible for us to catch the culprits and unmask them. Neither is it often possible for us to unmask the circumstances they design to shelve their crimes upon us. The most reasonable thing we can do is to exert every ounce of pressure to see that the most searching, dispassionate and embracing investigation is made in every instance in which Negroes are suspected of capital crimes against whites. In the face of the circumstances, it probably behooves us to become ardent opponents of capital punishment in all cases of conviction upon circumstantial evidence.

ADMITS SHE SLEW WOMAN BUT IS FREE

Maurice Mays Died in Chair for Crime

(Picture on Page 2)

Norton, Va., Aug. 28.—Although police said she had confessed she killed Mrs. Bertie Lindsey (white) in Knoxville Tenn., about five years ago, for which crime Maurice Mays was electrocuted, Mrs. Saide Mendill (white), 28 years old, was released from jail here Monday.

Chief of Police Warren said he had been advised by telephone by the office of the Knoxville chief of police that Mays had paid the death penalty for the crime, and that records there showed no charge against the woman.

Mrs. Mendill and her husband, a palmist, arrived here last week. She went immediately to the chief of police's office and volunteered a confession, explaining that her conscience had been troubling her.

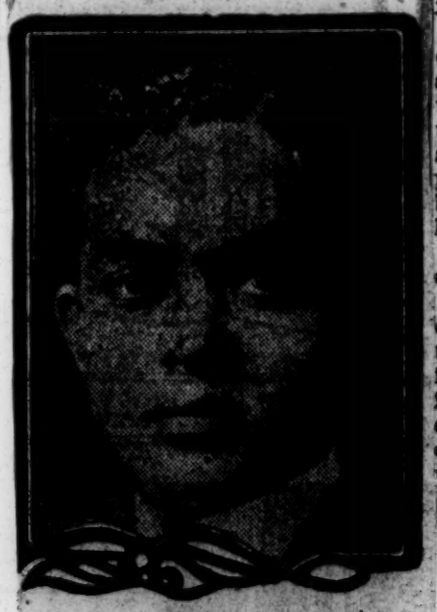
At the time of the crime police said Mrs. Mendill told them, her name was Mrs. John Doddy and she lived at Devonia, Tenn. Dressed in men's clothing and with her face blackened, according to her story, she slipped into the Lindsey woman's home and killed her in bed. She did so, she said, because a few nights previous she had trailed her husband, a traveling man, to the Lindsey home, and had seen her husband and the Lindsey woman together on the street.

When she left the jail, Mrs. Mendill told Chief Warren she was going to Knoxville to see her two-year-old son, who is living with friends.

A nation-wide attempt was made to save Mays from the electric chair, but prejudice overruled reason and the governor of the state refused to commute his sentence. Mays went to his death at Nashville declaring his innocence.

Mob action followed Mays' arrest in Knoxville and strong political pressure was brought to bear to obtain a conviction. In the legal battle that ensued, Mays' aged father and mother mortgaged their home and lost it defraying expense for counsel

LYNCHED BY LAW



—Photo by Defender Staff Photographer.

MAURICE MAYS

Five years after Maurice Mays, well-to-do citizen of Knoxville, Tenn., was arrested, convicted and hurried to his death in the electric chair by Tennessee authorities for the murder of Bertie Lindsey, a white woman, Mrs. Sadie Mendil, another white woman, comes to the front with a confession that she was the murderer. She killed the Lindsey woman, she said, because she saw her husband with the woman. The electrocution of Mays attracted unusual attention at the time because of his protests of innocence even to his death. Mrs. Mendil has been freed in Warren, Va., where she admitted her crime, as Knoxville authorities, declaring that the crime has been expiated, claim they have no charge against the woman and no grounds upon which to hold her, although they believe her story.

Maurice Mays

Maurice Mays is dead. Five years ago he was executed for the murder of a white girl in Knoxville, Tenn.

Last week another white woman confessed the crime. Sadie Mendill, white, told police she killed Bertie Lindsay, also white, because the latter was intimate with her husband.

To commit the crime Sadie told police she donned mens clothes and blackened her face, thus making it impossible to connect a white person with the crime. Mays was selected by Knoxville police as the victim, not because he was suspected of the crime, but because it was publicly known that he had "affairs" with white women.

May's arrest was a signal for a mob outbreak and attempted lynching. A race riot followed, one of the series which travelled round the country after the war. Two were killed and many hurt. There followed similar riots in Washington and Chicago.

Mays had eminent counsel, and the aid of the N. A. A. C. P. His case went twice to the State Supreme Court. When Knoxville white police finished telling lies about the accused, sentence to death was a foregone conclusion. Besides the Court knew that unless MAYS were condemned, another attempted lynching would follow.

So Mays innocent went to the chair, a disgraced reprobate and criminal. Conscience smitten the real criminal now confesses. It's too late. Knoxville police have ordered "Sadie the Killer" released. The ends of "justice" they say, have been served. If Sadie insists, they'll probably lodge her in the mad house. It's bad business to show the world how Dixie justice has gone astray.

The saddest part about it is that the Mays case is not an isolated instance.

John Snowden was hanged in Maryland on circumstantial evidence that would have been thrown out of most courts. John Ferby is serving a life term in the Maryland Pen under similar circumstances. Few states are there south of Mason and Dixon's line which cannot point out a dozen similar cases of justice mis-carried.

Lynchings-1927

Texas.

2467

Legal Punishment for Rape.

BOY, NINETEEN ELECTROCUTED

Youth Pays With Life for Attack On Girl of Seven

Huntsville, Texas, Aug. 29.—Firmly declaring himself innocent, Ed. Joslin, 19-year-old died in the electric chair at 12:19 last Monday morning for criminal assault on a seven-year-old Victoria girl.

Two shocks were used before the doctor pronounced the man dead. Joslin was the youngest man ever electrocuted in Texas.

Joslin came into the death chamber unassisted and maintaining outward calm. A few minutes before had wept in the death cell.

His last words were to thank the prison officials for their good treatment of him. He showed especial gratitude toward Warden Speer and assistant warden Schramm.

"I have made my peace with God, and am ready to go," Joslin answered when asked for a final statement. He coupled with this a denial of guilt.

Writes He Is Innocent

"I am innocent and they intend for me to take the death walk, what a breadth of cruelty!"

Those were the last words of a message to the world from Ed. Joslin, 19-year-old who was electrocuted at Huntsville, Texas, early Monday.

"I am dated for the chair if something don't turn up pretty quickly—the march through the little green door," he wrote.

Joslin says he was born on a farm near Victoria, October 5, 1908. That would make him only eighteen years old, although penitentiary records show his age to be 19.

Happy But Poor

"My life was spent on a farm," the youth wrote. "We were happy but poor. I realized that the few acres would never produce more than we would need for our daily existence.

"I used to rest on my plow handles and dream of going to a large city, of great opportunities to establish myself in some business. I wanted to grow until I would be in a position to be of real service to my parents.

"I am a Christian lad and my mother always taught me to be honest and true to everyone. I will not do anything against her teachings.

"I went to Victoria and worked there about eight months. Then took a vacation in San Antonio. Then came back to Victoria and worked faithfully. I was always true and polite to the people of the town, until a calamity of trouble came upon me, and I was given a speedy trial and was followed by a mob.

"In a few days my case was affirmed by the judge and I was removed to Huntsville's death chambers.

Baby Condemned

"There are nine of us in the death cells. I am the only baby in the death house. Nearly all the people think I am about 12 years old. Out of 248 countries, I am the only one that was sent here to be killed.

"The Bible says: 'Thou shalt not kill, and whosoever shall kill, will be in danger of judgment.

"It is hard for me to get justice in Texas, because I lack finance.

"I am innocent and they want me to take that death walk, what a breadth of cruelty! Ed. Joslin death cell."

That was the message of the condemned man to the world. A message from him that was addressed to the white people who had helped him before his trouble.

Lynchings-1927

Legal Punishment for Rape.

West Virginia.

2469

MAN IS SENTENCED TO DIE FOR ASSAULT

Parkersburg, W. Va., November 12. (AP)—Convicted of assaulting a 5-year-old girl, Wesley H. Swain, 20, was sentenced today to be hanged February 3.

In pronouncing sentence, Circuit Judge McDougle told Swain he was fortunate in being permitted a trial. "Feeling ran high the night of your arrest," he said.

Swain appeared unmoved by the sentence.

Lynchings.- 1927

Tennessee

2470

Legal Punishment for Rape.

MAURICE MAYS—SACCO AND VANZETTI

Seven years ago Maurice Mays was convicted of the murder of a white woman in Kentucky, sentenced to death and duly executed. A strong alibi had been offered in his defense, his case attracted the attention of the people of his group throughout the country. Negro newspapers gave wide publicity to the facts favorable to his claim of innocence and individuals reinforced by the N. A. A. C. P. worked industriously and energetically without avail to secure a new trial and failing in that to secure a commutaton of the sentence of death to life imprsonment. But the courts were locked against the efforts for justice for Maurice Mays and the Governor was deaf to all appeals in his behalf.

He was an American citizen, but a Negro, and was charged with the murder of a white woman, a crime which to be charged with is sufficient to send a Negro to the gallows or the electric chair in almost any State in the Union.

Seven years ago Sacco and Vanzetti, foreigners were tried and duly convicted of murder in Massachusetts. They were given every opportunity in the trial which was deliberate and impartial, to defend themselves against the charge of murder and to establish doubt of their guilt. Their case dragged its weary way through seven years during which their friends and sympathizers exhausted every legal means to free them from the charge of murder or commutation from death to imprisonment.

Public sentiment was aroused in their favor in many cities in America and in Europe; powerful daily newspapers took up their cause and appealed directly to the Governor of Massachusetts to pardon or commute the sentence of the convicted men. That the pleas, the efforts, the display of violence for the purpose of intimidating the Massachusetts courts and executive did not succeed was due to the firmness and moral courage of those responsible for the interpretation and execution of the laws of Massachusetts.

Although foreigners and non citizens Sacco and Vanzetti being white were afforded every opportunity, were allowed the use of every loop hole to escape the penalty for their crime and allowed seven years for proof of their innocence to be submitted to overcome the evidence which convicted them.

Such is law and justice for white men even though Anarchists ready to destroy the government. But for Maurice Mays the Negro there was no deliberation, no chance to prove his innocence and now a white woman presents herself terrified by guilt and her harried conscience and confesses the murder for which the Negro Mays suffered the death penalty, and so shamed is Kentucky for hastening to legal murder Maurice Mays that the confessed murderer was not arrested and told that there was no charge against her and that the murder which she confessed had been avenged by the death of Maurice Mays.

And in the face of this horrible miscarriage of justice the great dailies are silent, no effort to create a public sentiment for justice for the Negro is being made although the front page and news columns are still harping on the so-called injustice to Sacco and Vanzetti.

TRIBUNE
Concord, N.C.
Sept 1, 1927

A CONFESSION OF MURDER.

Greensboro News.

Some five years ago Mrs. Bertie Lindsey was shot to death in bed in her home in Knoxville, Tenn. Another woman was in bed with her. A negro, Marcus Mays, was identified by this woman as the murderer. A mob marched on the jail where Mays was confined and demanded the prisoner, who was defended by the sheriff and his deputies. Troops were called and Knoxville was put under martial law. The negroes of the city are said to have armed themselves. Machine guns were mounted throughout the negro district. There was a clash between citizens and soldiery in which one officer was killed and several negroes were wounded. Mays was given a speedy trial, was convicted, and executed, protesting his innocence.

About a fortnight ago Mrs. Sadie Mendel, in Norton, Va., made affidavit to the following report:

She was at the time of the murder the wife of John Roddy, of Devonia, Tenn. She believed she had cause for jealously of Mrs. Lindsey. She put on man's clothing and blacked her face, and about midnight entered Mrs. Lindsey's house, shot her, left through the window by which she had entered, ran to the stree where her car was parked, and drove to her home in Devonia. The revolver she sold. She subsequently divorced her husband. Last month she was married in Knoxville to Mack Mendel, an itinerant palm reader. The confession, it is related in a dispatch from Norton to the Norfolk Journal and Guide, negro publication, followed a quarrel between husband and wife at a Norton hotel. The dispactch says the woman was released by the Norton police after a telephone message from Knoxville stated that "a negro had already paid the penalty for the crime and there was no charge against her."

The Journal and Guide assumes the truth of the confession which to it has "all the earmarks of genuineness," and conjectures that black faces not infrequently have paid the penalty for white crimes committed by blackened faces. The conjecture would hardly be warranted by this single instance, if established; and the story as related has hardly sufficient earmarks, or hallmarks, or other marks of genuineness to compel its acceptance. But there is enough of plausibility, it seems to the Daily News, to make it somebody's business to investigate. The declaration of the woman who proclaims herself murderess is circumstantial as to time, place, conditions of weather. It might not be a task requiring great detective talent to establish whether the circumstantial evidence incident to her declaration will hold together.

And it is perhaps somebody's business to find out. The organization in opposition to capital punishment comes first to mind. It cannot find much more effective instruments for its purpose than a certificate of execution for a crime subsequently proved to have been committed by someone else than the executed.

"LEGALIZED" LYNCH LAW'S GRAVE PERIL!

The grave danger of "legalized" lynch-law—the practice of trying, convicting and assessing the extreme penalty upon some accused criminal under the influence of mobs or mob-spirit—has been very forcibly brought home to America within the last few days.

The doctrine, particularly of the South, that any black man accused of a crime (particularly where a white woman is involved), is guilty before afforded a chance to prove his innocence, and that no evidence submitted or testimony adduced can change the guilt of the accused black culprit, appears to have struck another serious snag in the case of Maurice Mays of Tennessee.

About eight years ago a white woman was murdered in Knoxville, Tenn., and Mays, an outstanding young colored man and admitted political factor in his city and section, was arrested and charged with having slain this white woman, purely on circumstantial or "frame-up" evidence.

Feeling was intense against Mays and a mobocratic demonstration was staged on the streets of Knoxville by the white hoodlums and savages who were lusting for black meat.

It appears that this same mobocratic spirit was manifested throughout the trial; for, despite that fact that Mays proved an alibi and the majority of residents of Knoxville did not believe him guilty of the crime, he was sentenced to the electric chair.

A stiff legal battle ensued, but to no avail, as the young Negro was finally electrocuted for the alleged slaying of this white woman, though he went to his death asserting his innocence.

Recently, according to news dispatches, a Mrs. Sadie Mendil, white woman, confessed to the crime, and gave complete details leading up to, attending and subsequent to the killing.

She stated that the slain Lindsey woman appeared to be intimate with her (Mrs. Mendil's) former husband; that she dressed in men's clothes, "BLACKENED" her face, entered the Lindsey home one night and killed the woman as she lay in bed.

When Mays was arrested it was charged that he first criminally assaulted the white woman and, then, to cover up his fiendish and bestial attack, slew the woman and fled from the house.

Although this white woman made this confession to the chief of police in an Ohio city, who wired the chief of police at Knoxville, Tennessee, to said effect, she was released from prison; the Knoxville police head holding to the point that Maurice Mays had paid the penalty for slaying the Lindsey woman, and that the criminal records of the Tennessee city, where the crime was perpetrated, showed no charge against the Mendil woman.

Of course, this belated confession can not help unfortunate Maurice Mays, nor can it do much to remove such stigma from our racial escutcheon; since Mays' electrocution apparently satisfied the state, despite the fact that he was innocent of the crime and knew nothing about it.

The mob-spirit cried and clamored for some "black brute" to be sacrificed,—yea, lynched—as a burnt offering to Judge Lynch; and the court, responding to the mobocratic urge and appeal, convicted and "legally" lynched an innocent American citizen, merely because his skin was black and due to the peculiar American psychology which charges all brutal and heinous crimes at the door of some black person.

In their efforts to save their son from the electric chair, Mr. and Mrs. Mays even mortgaged and lost their home to realize funds with which to employ counsel; and now we are informed by the self-confessed murderer that her conscience has been troubling her so long that she was forced to make a confession and submit herself to arrest.

Here is another grave danger of capital punishment, for if Mays' sentence had been life imprisonment, he could now be exonerated and liberated; but the poor fellow's body has returned to Mother Earth long since and his name is only a faint memory among the sons of men.

SHOULD THE STATE OF TENNESSEE REFUSE TO ARREST, INDICT, TRY AND CONVICT THIS ALLEGED CONFESSOR MERELY BECAUSE MAYS, NOW PROVEN INNOCENT, EXPIATED WITH LIFE FOR THE CRIME?

This confession and miscarriage of justice also raise another fine point, as to whether the state of Tennessee is not debtor to the Mays family for electrocuting an innocent man?

This belated confession demonstrates the awful danger of and in mob-law, whether of the illegalized or legalized species; for every man's life is as dear, precious and sweet to him as the judge presiding on the bench, or the prosecuting attorney or jurors sitting in judgment on the case.

WE WONDER HOW THESE WHITE JURORS AND JUDGE FEEL NOW, SINCE IT HAS BEEN PROVEN THAT THE BLACK WHOM THEY SENTENCED AND SENT TO HIS UNTIMELY DEATH, HAD NO PART IN THIS MURDER?

It is just fiascos and abortions of justice as this which cause people to lose faith in and respect for constituted authority, and which render and maintain our supposed temples of justice mere legal instrumentalities through and by which the mob-spirit can legally be invoked upon and employed against members of a weaker and less fortunate race.

Juse a few days ago a colored lad of 16 or 17 summers, Ed Joslin of Victoria, Texas, was electrocuted at the state penitentiary at Huntsville for an alleged criminal attack upon a 7-year old white girl.

The youth, the youngest person ever to be electrocuted in Texas, went to his death protesting his innocence, and it would be a terrible and hideous indictment against this state were the facts later disclosed that this Negro boy did not commit this fiendish act.

Furthermore, the object and purpose of penal institutions is to reform and remake criminals into decent citizens, and not to destroy either their lives or torture their physical bodies.

Yet we boast of a Christian democracy, which seems to be void of the essential, elemental and fundamental teachings of the Lowly Nazarene, who believed in giving every man and woman a chance, despite his or her racial connection or social status.

The Informer is unalterably opposed to capital punishment, particularly where the accused is indicted and convicted on circumstantial evidences—as in the Mays case, which has now taken this peculiar turn.

No amount of reasoning or argument could sway the prejudiced mobocrats who sat in judgment upon Maurice Mays in 1919, but a greater law than the criminal statute of Tennessee—the law of retribution, which is inexorable, immutable and cosmic—has automatically invoked itself to show the folly and danger of "legalized" lynch-law in this reputed enlightened and civilized country.

May a merciful heavenly Father show mercy and pity and extend forgiveness to those men who sat in judgment upon Maurice Mays, and may this epitaph be inscribed upon the unfortunate colored man's tombstone: **SACRIFICED TO THE CRUEL AND MERCILESS LEGALIZED LYNCH-LAW OF CHRISTIAN AMERICA.**

Lynchings - 1927
Legal Punishment for Rape

Virginia

2483

VIRGINIA'S LATEST BRAND OF (IN)JUSTICE!

Newspaper reports state that a colored youth of 17 summers, accused of a criminal attack upon a white woman, was recently electrocuted in Virginia, after every appeal to the higher courts and the governor of the state had failed to save this youth from a peculiar and novel brand of Southern (in)justice.

According to newspaper reports, the victim of the alleged attack never did appear in court to face the accused race youth, nor was any evidence or testimony presented at the original trial secured from the complaining witness under oath, only hearsay evidence being adduced by the coroner, and even he admitted, on the stand, that the white woman had told him (the coroner) that she "did not know whether anything had happened or not."

It is further stated that the supreme court of Virginia upheld the action of the original court in convicting the colored youth without his accuser being present at the original trial, thereby validating and rendering admissable hearsay evidence even in capital cases in the Old Dominion state.

In sentencing this colored youth to the electric chair under such unparalleled and unprecedented circumstances, the Virginia courts and governor ignored the constitution of the United States, which states the following:

> **Article VI.—Right To Speedy Trial, Witnesses, Etc.**
>
> In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of the state and district wherein the crime shall have been committed, which districts shall have been previously ascertained by law, to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation; **to be confronted with the witnesses against him**; to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor, and to have the assistance of counsel for his defense.

In this recent legal outrage in Virginia, the complaining witness and alleged victim of the attack did not even appear in court, nor did she appear before a notary public and make an affidavit in substantiation of the version of the criminal attack she is reported to have made to the coroner, who was not a witness, per se, and only told the court and jury what this supposedly outraged woman told him; and even that hearsay evidence was tinged with doubt, uncertainty and unreliability.

On top of all this legal lynch law, the electrocuted race youth was alleged to have been mentally unbalanced; but none of these pleas nor the fact that the basic principle of criminal jurisprudence had been ignored and violated, influenced even the chief executive of Virginia to even grant a stay of execution to this colored youth, William Gee.

In the face of such gross miscarriages of justice and the fact that many of the trial and higher courts in Southern states are dominated by the mob spirit, and permit prejudice to sway and influence them in their verdicts and opinions, it is a hard and difficult matter for any black man to get a fair and impartial trial in criminal cases where the two races are involved in the average Dixie community; yet The Informer does not recall that Texas has ever pulled off such stunt as the Gee case in Virginia—the state that recently engrossed national attention by the passage of its "racial purity" measure, but soft-pedaled the agitation for its enforcement when family skeletons began to emerge from closets and threatened to make some startling and awful exposes.

O, tempora! O, mores!

TIMES
ROANOKE, VA.

SEP 10 1927

A CONFESSION OF MURDER.

Some five years ago Mrs. Bertie Lindsey was shot to death in bed in her home in Knoxville, Tenn. Another woman was in bed with her. A negro, Marcus Mays, was identified by this woman as the murderer. A mob marched to the jail where Mays was confined and demanded the prisoner, who was defended by the sheriff and his deputies. Troops were called and Knoxville was put under martial law. The negroes of the city are said to have armed themselves. Machine guns were mounted throughout the negro district. There was a clash between citizens and soldiery in which one officer was killed and several negroes were wounded. Mays was given a speedy trial, was convicted, and executed, protesting his innocence.

About a fortnight ago, Mrs. Sadie Mendel, in Norton, Va., made affidavit to the following purport:

She was at the time of the murder the wife of John Roddy, of Devonia, Tenn. She believed she had cause for jealousy of Mrs. Lindsey. She put on man's clothing and blacked her face, and about midnight entered Mrs. Lindsey's house, shot her, left through the window by which she had entered, ran to the street where her car was parked, and drove to her home in Devonia. The revolver she sold. She subsequently divorced her husband. Last month she was married in Knoxville to Mack Mendel, an itinerant palm reader. The confession, it is related in a dispatch from Norton to the Norfolk Journal and Guide, negro publication, followed a quarrel between husband and wife at a Norton hotel. The dispatch says the woman was released by the Norton police after a telephone message from Knoxville stated that "a negro had already paid the penalty for the crime and there was no charge against her."

The Journal and Guide assumes the truth of the confession, which to it has "all the earmarks of genuineness," and conjectures that black faces not infrequently have paid the penalty for white crimes committed by blackened faces. The conjecture would hardly be warranted by this single instance, if established; and the story as related has hardly sufficient earmarks, or hallmarks, or other marks of genuineness to compel its acceptance. But there is enough of plausibility, it seems to the Daily News, to make it somebody's business to investigate. The declaration of the woman who proclaims herself murderess is circumstantial as to time, place, conditions of weather. It might not be a task requiring great detective talent to establish whether the circumstantial evidence incident to her declaration will hold together.

And it is perhaps somebody's business to find out. The organization in opposition to capital punishment comes first to mind. It cannot find much more effective instruments for its purpose than a certificate of execution for a crime subsequently proved to have been committed by someone else than the executed.—Greensboro News.

Both parties would feel better if they had had any earthly idea of how or where to obtain an

N. A. A. C. P. GIVES $250 FOR DEFENSE

Of Two Negro Women Sentenced to Three Years

New York, Dec. 12—The National Legal Committee of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, has appropriated $250 for the defense of two colored sisters, Mrs. McNell and Mrs. Kelly, sentenced to three years each in the penitentiary because they persisted in raising funds for the defense and testifying as alibi witnesses for William Nelson, a colored man tried on a charge of rape, sentenced and executed.

The case is being handled by the newly organized Petersburg, Virginia, Branch of the N. A. A. C. P. It is reported that the public prosecutor threatened the two colored women to deter them from continuing their activities in the colored defendant's behalf. They were arrested and charged with perjury, an attempt being made to try them on the day of the arrest without giving their Negro lawyer an opportunity to prepare their case. When a white lawyer was called in a week's adjournment was granted for the preparation of the case. The women were found guilty and sentenced to 3 years each in the penitentiary. The case is being appealed by the Petersburg N. A. A. C. P.

Lynchings - 1927

Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

Alabama.

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Birmingham, Ala., The Post

SEP 6 1927

NEGRO DEMANDS BOND BE POSTED

Not To Return Unless Guaranteed Protection

By United Press Leased Wire.

CLEVELAND, Ohio, Sept. 6.—Emory Cobb, negro, wanted to testify in Alabama against a band of men who are alleged to have killed his wife in April, 1926, will not go south unless Alabama authorities accede to his demands for protection, he said today.

Cobb thru Cleveland police, asked that a $10,000 bond be posted in a Cleveland bank as assurance that he will be able to return safely.

He also asked to have a detachment of National Guardsmen escort him from Montgomery to Oneonta where the trial will be held if witnesses can be found to testify against the alleged slayers.

EMORY COBB READY TO RETURN TO STATE

Wants to Push Murder Charge Against Alleged Slayer of Wife

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., Sept. 1.—Special To The Advertiser—Emory Cobb, negro, material witness wanted by the state to prosecute the murder charge against Edgar Moses who is charged with the slaying of Cobb's wife in a masked raid at Oneonta in 1926 has told Cleveland police that he is willing to return to Alabama, reports received from Cleveland, Ohio, said Friday.

Moses was indicted for first degree murder by a Blount county grand jury when an unexplained gunshot wound of his hand pointed to the fact that he might have been present at the masked raid that ended with the slaying of Cobb's wife.

In April of 1926, 16 or more masked men appeared at the negroes home. While Cobb and his children looked on, the woman was shot to death.

As the men rode away from the house, Cobb seized a shotgun and fired. The next day Moses was found in a Birmingham hospital with an unexplained gunshot wound in his hand.

Following the raid, Cobb, terror stricken, fled to Cleveland, Ohio, where he had remained hiding until his whereabouts were learned by The Age-Herald, and the information turned over to the attorney general's office.

At first Cobb refused to return to Alabama to prosecute the case against Moses which had languished, authorities said, because they lacked convicting evidence. Cobb is thought to be able to supply it.

Later a warrant was sworn out against Cobb on a charge of assault with intent to murder. Alabama authorities hoping to extradite the negro and return him to the state as a witness. For some reason the charges fell through, although Fred Cain, special investigator for the attorney general's office spent considerable time in Cleveland trying to effect Cobb's return.

NO COMMENT

Attorney General Charlie C. McCall stated last night that he had no comment to make upon the negro's statement, but that he was still investigating the case. "Nothing will be left undone to bring the murderers of Lilly Cobb to justice," he said. "I expect to get the murderers indicted if it takes the remainder of the administration to do it."

Lynchings - 1927
Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

Arkansas

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NEGROES' TRIAL SET.

Slayer of Floella McDonald Will Face Court May 19.

LITTLE ROCK., Ark., May 4.—Judge Abner McGehee in circuit court today set the trial of Lonnie Dixon for May 19. Dixon, who is 16 years of age, confessed to police officers Sunday that he killed Floella McDonald, 12, in the belfry of the First Presbyterian Church three weeks ago.

Trial of Mrs. Alva Young Bradley, who shot and killed her husband, E. Bradley, was set for Monday, May 16.

INVESTIGATE LYNCHING.

Man Arrested In Hot Springs to Be Questioned.

HOT SPRINGS, Ark., May 9.—H. F. Price, alias C. L. Woods, 25, of Trinity, Ala., who was arrested here Saturday on a gun carrying charge, will be turned over to Little Rock officers for questioning in connection with the lynching and burning of a negro there last Wednesday night, according to local police. In addition to carrying a gun, Price was said by police to have been carrying a number of charred bones wrapped in a handkerchief, and admitted that they were souvenirs of the lynching. Price was fined $50 in municipal court here today for carrying a gun.

HALT LYNCHING PROBE

Grand Jury At Little Rock Discharged Because Couldn't Agree.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., May 13.—Judge Abner McGehee today granted the request of the seven grand jurors who asked several days ago that the entire panel be discharged because they could not agree on its investigation of last week's mob following the lynching of John Carter, negro. In discharging the panel Judge McGehee made the following order:

"It appearing to the court that the present grand jury cannot properly function, which matter is concurred in by the prosecuting attorney, the court doth order on its own motion and that of the prosecuting attorney that the present panel of the grand jury be and the same is hereby discharged."

MOB RULE DEPLORED.

Little Rock Chamber of Commerce Adopts Resolution.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., May 5.—At a gathering of local business men in the auditorium of the Chamber of Commerce this afternoon, a resolution was adopted strongly condemning last night's prevalence of mob rule. The resolutions provide:

1. Deploring the lawlessness that had been exhibited by mobs during the present week.

2. Offering rewards for information leading to the apprehension and conviction of leaders, agitators and members of the mobs committing unlawful acts.

3. Condemning the "contemptuous failure" of officials to maintain order.

4. Requesting the grand jury to use every means to bring about punishment of those responsible.

5. Asking the governor and other agencies of the executive and judicial departments of the government to remove from office officials found directly derelict in their duties.

6. Commending the newspapers which have taken a stand in demanding law enforcement and punishment of those to blame in disorders.

7. Calling upon all people who believe in the maintenance of law and order to express themselves.

JURY REFUSES TO INDICT LYNCHERS

Seven Members of Arkansas Inquisitorial Body Halt Investigation of Mob

LITTLE ROCK, ARK., May 10.—(AP)—Declaring that it was impossible to get three fourths of the jury to vote for indictment of any one, the Pulaski county grand jury, investigating the lynching of a negro here last Wednesday and subsequent mob disorders, asked the court late today to be dismissed.

The request was transmitted to Judge Abner McGhee in a report signed by Gordon N. Peay, foreman, and six other jurors.

The seven men told the court that indictment of any one, either officers or mob leaders, was impossible and that they refused to concur in the action of the jury and wished the panel to be discharged.

Judge McGhee did not indicate what action he would take.

The grand jury took up investigation of the lynching and other mob disorders on last Thursday. The next day it received a special charge from the court asking that prompt action be taken against anyone found to have been connected with the mob, or against law officers if it appeared that they had not performed their duty in allowing the disorders to take place. Two bodies of citizens transmitted resolutions asking the same action.

BLAMED FOR LYNCHING

The Chamber of Commerce and other civic organizations are pushing court proceedings against these officials because they did not prevent the lynching of John Carter, a negro, accused of assaulting a Little Rock, Ark., woman and her daughter. They are (left to right), Sheriff M. J. Haynie, Police Chief B. C. Rittenberry and Mayor Charles E. Moyer. Carter was hung, his body dragged through the streets and burned in the centre of the negro quarter.

FIFTEEN WHITES HELD AFTER NEGRO IS SHOT

Mob Of 200 In Chase Following Attempted Attack On White Girl

ELDORADO, ARK., July 8.—(AP)—Fifteen white men were in custody at Camden late tonight as the result of an attempted [illegible] white girl at Cullendale, two miles south of Camden. The arrests were made following the shooting of Thad Stephens, 41 year old negro by members of a mob estimated at 200. The negro was fired upon by the mob when he failed to stop at a command.

The negro was later taken before the girl in the presence of officers and she said he was not the one who had attempted the assault. The negro's injuries were not serious it was said. He was released.

Police were searching around Cullendale near the plant of the International Paper company for the negro who made the attack.

BAND CAPTURES INNOCENT NEGRO, IS OF MOB JAILED

Eldorado, Ark., July 9.—(AP)—After wounding an innocent negro who ran from them as they searched for the negro assailant of a 19-year-old white girl, members of a band which last evening attempted to take the law into their own hands, were content today to let authorized officers of the law continue the search.

Fifteen alleged members of the band today were in jail and Thad Stevens, 41-year-old negro, although wounded, was vindicated by his supposed victim.

Late yesterday a negro attempted to attack the girl as she drove along a country road near Cullendale. The news spread and 200 men started in search of the negro. Officers of the law also took up the search.

Seeing a band of searchers bearing down upon him, Stevens took to flight and several of the unauthorized posse fired at him. He was wounded and taken before the girl by his captors. She failed to identify him. Ouachita county officers were more successful, however, they said in their efforts to identify 15 members of the posse and that number were locked in the jail of Camden overnight. Today the officers stated they would prefer charges against those arrested and would have them brought to trial for "ritotous activities."

Lynchings-1927
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Georgia.

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NEW YORK EVE. POST

MAR 17 1927

4 GEORGIA LYNCHERS JAILED

16 Sentenced to Date for Only Mob Crime of 1926 in State

Douglas, Ga., March 17 (AP).—A mob that took Dave Wright from the county jail here last August 30, tied him to a tree and shot him to death as the glow from the last puff of a cigarette died away, has given over the sixteenth man for a term in prison.

Wright, a white man, was the only person lynched in Georgia in 1926. He was held in the slaying of his landlady. Four men were sentenced yesterday, one from four to twenty years and the others from one to five years. John Strickland, forty, drew the longest sentence. The others were Tilden Smith, twenty-two; Robert Bullard, twenty-two, and D. B. Lott, eighteen.

JOURNAL
ATLANTA, GA.

FEB 7 1927

Mistrial Is Declared In Tilden Smith Case In Lynching Inquiry

DOUGLAS, Ga., Feb. 7.—(AP)—The jury having charge of the case of Tildon Smith, charged with murder, for being a member of the mob which lynched Dave Wright in Coffee county on August 30, last year, reported to Judge Reed Sunday afternoon at 4 o'clock that the jury was hopelessly disagreed, and Judge Reed passed an order declaring a mistrial, and excused the jury subject to call. The jury deliberated for more than 28 hours and were divided, it is said, ten for conviction and two for acquittal.

Judge Reed is considering reconvening Coffee superior court some time between now and the regular March term for the purpose of retrying Smith, and it is claimed that the state's case will be strengthened on the next trial by newly discovered evidence. Tildon Smith will be taken back to Waycross jail for safe-keeping.

STATE OF GEORGIA TAKES STAND

Leaders of Mob Convicted Down in Peachtree State

EDITOR OF NASHVILLE BANNER RECALLS UNPUNISHED MOB LEADERS OF TENN.

Lynchers are being punished, mob leaders convicted, and law-violators comprehended down in the state of Georgia, which led America several years in the number of lynchings, according to an editorial in The Nashville Banner last week under the caption of "Georgia Drives On." It was noticeable here in Nashville by the readers of The Nashville Banner, that this afternoon paper had taken a firm stand for protecting the name of the South, and redeeming the reputation of this land of sunshine and beauty.

The Nashville Banner courageously advocates, so it is claimed by those who have read the editorial, that the recent lynching of Nashville should be carefully investigated and the perpetrators brought to justice. There are hundreds of people in Nashville who will never believe that the officers of law exercised their whole duty when they failed to apprehend the leaders of the mob that went into the City Hospital and took out a patient and prisoner from that institution, who was chained to his cot, and lynched him. If they can run down and apprehend Negroes, with no eye witnesses to a crime following one after another, and convict them on circumstantial evidence, it seems possible that they might catch some of the mob who walked boldly into the hospital, took out and murdered an inmate thereof. If they can trace a criminal by comparing foot prints or shoe prints, and bring him to justice, it seems easy that they might, with the same amount of exertion, apprehend leaders of a mob.

Thousands of people agree with the editorial in The Nashville Banner; thousands of Nashville citizens, residents and tax payers of Davidson County and the state of Tennessee commend The Banner for its fearless utterance. The editorial which recently appeared, on "Georgia Drives On," said:

"Georgia is driving on in its spirited and apparently relentless campaign against lynching. Last August a band of men took the law into their own hands and carried out an execution in a style typical of the barbarity that attends such utterly heathenish and inexcusable performances. Last Friday one of the band of lynchers was sentenced to spent the rest of his life in the penitentiary. That conviction made the twelfth in this case, and another prosecution is now under way. Prison sentences of from four years to life have been assessed already, and Georgia evidently does not mean to stop until the majesty of the law has been vindicated as far as is humanly possible. It would be almost impossible to overestimate the value of the example Georgia is setting to the South and to the nation.

Georgia's bold and commendable fight against mob violence is not the only one that is being waged in this general section at this time. Over in South Carolina, Governor Richards, recently inducted into office, has pledged himself to avenge the insult flung at the law by a recent and most outrageous lynching in his state. Both houses of the South Carolina legislature have passed resolutions sustaining the governor in his stand and offering their whole-hearted assistance to him and to society in the effort to cleanse South Carolina's name of an ugly blot. North Carolina has been making its fight on lynching for a number of years, and so effective has been the struggle for orderly procedure in the punishment of crime, no matter what, that it need only now maintain what it has gained.

With the foregoing in mind, it is sufficient to say that there are today in Tennessee at least two or three relative recent cases of lynching that have never been solved, and for whose solution no present effort is being made. There is no need for comment. The contrast is obvious and significant. Lynching and the spirit that prompts mob violence constitute an evil with which there can be no compromise without a double measure of difficulty and disgrace as the final result. Georgia, South Carolina and North Carolina have taken and are taking the better way.

ACREE VERDICT OF GUILTY.

In the verdict of guilty in the case of the state gainst W. G. Acree, charged with being a member of a mob of hooded hoodlums who recently whipped a Toccoa woman into insensibility, Stephens county has made a magnificent beginning toward a complete vindication of her former good name.

There are four other defendants against whom the grand jury brought indictments for participation in the same outrageous crime.

These trials will proceed with the same prosecuting attorneys assisting Solicitor McMillan.

Judge Sutton and the solicitor and his associate counsel are to be commended for the fairness of the trial, and for the vigorous, unrelenting effort to get the facts before the jury and to see that justice was meted.

The defense made a desperate fight with natural conditions in its favor because of the high standing of the defendant in educational and church circles.

Professor Acree is principal of the Stephens county high school, and is moderator of his association, and superintendent of a Sunday school—a leader, particularly in the instruction of the young people, and one whose example at all times should have been for uprightness and for obedience of law and the maintenance of good order.

His conviction for assault and battery will have a salient effect upon the community life of Stephens county. It will emphasize the fact that the law is supreme and that it must be respected and upheld by the mighty as well as by the most obscure individual in the community.

It is hoped and believed that every member of the brutal veiled gang who have terrorized the Toccoa district may be brought to justice, and that the punishment may be as severe as the law allows.

The good people of Stephens county—and an overwhelming majority of them are good law-abiding citizens—rejoice at this verdict as they see in it the beginning of the end of hooded brutalities that have terrorized, intimidated and bulldozed until the people of the entire county, the good and the bad alike, had been placed on trial before decent public opinion throughout America.

Stephens county is beginning to vindicate the law as did Coffee county when, by a series of convictions, with life and long term sentences, she ran the hooded terrorists from that county.

A mob has not been heard of in Coffee county since Judge Reed's court sent the band to the penitentiary.

The same good results will obtain in Stephens if the other guilty parties are brought to justice and to commensurate punishments.

It is natural to suppose that the usual attempts will be made for new trials, for delays and for defeating justice, but it is believed that Judge Sutton will sustain the law in its integrity, and do as did Judge Reed in Coffee.

Hoodlumism under cover of hoods and robes must be run out of Georgia. It must be run out of

the south and of the nation.

In the late telegraph reports a county in Alabama is being terrorized by masked brutes in the same

collared spaniel," and the official is asking $100,000 damages of the editor. Just like a mayor doesn't lead a dog's life while serving the dear people!

Five Are Indicted By Jury at Toccoa In Flogging Case

Men Charged With Murderous Assault Upon Mrs. Ansley Bowers, Who Was Whipped.

Toccoa, Ga., July 4.—(Special.)—After a rigid probe of recent floggings inflicted on three women and two men in this vicinity, the Stephens county grand jury this afternoon returned indictments against five men charged with complicity in the brutal whippings. The men were indicted on charges of assault with intent to murder in connection with the whipping of Mrs. Ansley Bowers Sunday morning, June 12. Those indicted in this case were W. G. Agee, principal of the Eastonolle high school, Claude Groover, local automobile dealer; Elmer Clark and Charles Thomas, railroad employees, and T. R. Lowry, employee of a furniture factory. All but Groover had been previously arrested in connection with the alleged flogging.

In addition to the indictments on charges of assault with intent to murder two indictments each were returned by the grand jury charging them with riot. All were indicted for carrying pistols. After the indictments were returned warrants were issued for the arrest of all the men.

Trial Wednesday.

It is expected that the men will be brought to trial Wednesday as the superior court of the Northeastern circuit is now in session here. Judge I. H. Sutton is presiding at the term of court and he presented a strong charge to the grand jury calling on the jurors to investigate thoroughly all details of the floggings.

Late tonight, Lowry, Clark and Thomas had been served with the new warrants and released on bonds of $1,800 each. Sheriff W. A. Stowe said he expected the other two to be taken into custody early tomorrow.

Mrs. Bowers and her son, Loyd, were among several witnesses who appeared before the grand jury during the day.

In all, 10 indictments were returned. The five men were named jointly in one indictment, charging that they "did enter the dwelling house of Mrs. Ansley Bowers with intent to commit a felony, to wit: assault with intent to murder." This charge is a felony.

They were accused jointly of a riot, a misdemeanor, in two other indictments returned respectively in the cases of Mrs. Bowers and Loyd. These charged that the five men "did unlawfully and with force and arms, do an unlawful act of violence and other acts in a violent and tumultuous manner by breaking into the dwelling house of Mrs. Ansley Bowers, masked and robed, and taking therefrom" the mother and son, taking them into the country "at night time and there unmercifully striking, beating and wounding them, "all of which act then and there constituted an aggravaed riot."

Two assault with intent to murder indictments, naming the men jointly in both cases, charged that they, "with a certain leather strap and with their hands, feet, fists, legs and other instruments unknown to the grand jury, the same being weapons likely to produce death," struck, beat and wounded the mother and son. This charge also is a felony.

Each of the five men was indicted separately on the pistol carrying charge, a misdemeanor.

Bond Is Set.

Bonds of $500 each were set on the felony charges and $100 each on the misdemeanor allegations.

Solicitor General Robert McMillan, of the northeast Georgia circuit, announced definitely later he would present evidence in the other flogging cases to the grand jury tomorrow.

Mrs. Bowers and her son, Loyd, were taken from their home by a band of twelve men who, according to Mrs. Bowers, wore the robes of the Ku Klux Klan and who threatened to brand the letter "K" on her if she did not leave town after the whipping. She was stripped of her clothing, her head was held between the legs of one of the men and she was struck 82 times on her bare skin with a leather strap.

Others whipped recently besides Mrs. Bowers and her son were Bart Singleton, a farmer, Mrs. Martha Finley and Elsie Williams.. The women were whipped because of the circulation of gossip about their character and the man was whipped because it was said he was a bootlegger.

Public sentiment in Toccoa and vicinity is strong in its condemnation of the whippings. The indictments by the grand jury came as a climax to the situation which has been watched with tense interest for weeks by the people of this section and also by the people of the state.

The grand jury is composed of Dr. C. L. Ayers, foreman; W. H. Camp, G. F. Rumsey, G. R. Fuller, W. L. Fulbright, Oscar Carpenter, A. J. Sisk, M. H. Hayes, H. T. Holcomb, J. Steve Meeks, John J. Thomason, W. H. Swain, Pope Yow, A. Y. Davis, J. B. Halford, D. M. Keller, G. P. Williams, George H. Busha, John M. Crawford, O. O. Moore, W. N. Friar, R. L. Bently, H. S. Brown.

Judge's Charge.

Judge Sutton, in charging the grand jury this morning, referring to the recent mob outrages in the county, closed his charge as follows: "It has been brought to my attention that certain atrocious deeds have recently been committed in this county, purported accounts of which have been heralded in the press from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and from the Great Lakes to the gulf. (Whether wisely or not, it is not my duty to say, but this county has been advertised widely and adversely—bad news travels swiftly.)

"These alleged atrocious deeds should be thoroughly and rigidly investigated by this grand jury and the perpetrators speedily brought to the bar of justice. Your regular term of court was so near at hand when these startling reports were circulated, the officials of court did not deem it necessary to call a special term of court, as it would have been impossible to have hastened the matter of investigations more than one week, on account of witnesses not being able to attend.

"It is your duty to make a thorough and sifting investigation—not in a wild and frenzied manner, but do so deliberately, intelligently and effectively. Court has been organized and is now in session for the investigation and prosecution of any and all crimes that have been committed in your county.

Impartial Trials.

"It has been the custom and practice of the officials of this court to undertake to administer the law properly and effectively, in a sane and legal way, without hurrahs or grandstand play. Justice must be administered by courts in an orderly, fair and impartial manner. The confidence and respect of the people in the courts is based and anchored on this vital principle.

"Every person charged with a violation of the law is entitled to a fair trial. Courts should not give expression as to their intended action before the trial. This is your county. It is your duty as grand jurors and good citizens (as well as every other good citizen) to see that crime, if any, be suppressed in your county, in so far as you can legally do so.

"It is the certainty of punishment and not the enormity of punishment that will stop crime and violations of the law and restore the good name of your county."

Negro in Chair Within 31 Days After Assault

Swift justice was meted out to John Saunders, negro, for an alleged criminal attack upon a white woman, it was revealed Saturday when Deputy Sheriff R. C. Tolbert returned from Milledgeville.

Saunders was alleged to have attacked the woman on October 18. He was arrested the next morning, indicted for the offense on October 24, tried and convicted on October 28, and electrocuted on Friday, just 31 days after the attack.

"This should act as a healthy lesson," Sheriff James Lowry said Saturday. "It proves that Georgia's justice is swift and certain. Such quick justice should deter mobs from taking matters into their own hands and instituting lynch law."

Saunders confessed his guilt as he was placed in the chair, and said that he did not know why he attacked the woman, but that he "must have been crazy," Mr. Tolbert said.

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Views Of Other Editors

GEORGIA WARS AGAINST LYNCHINGS

From The Gloria, O. Telegram

Two men have been sentenced to life imprisonment and ten others have received sentences of from four to twelve years for participating in the lynching of Dave Wright last August. A thirteenth man is now on trial for having participated in the lynching.

Following such forceful action we will not look in vain for a decrease in Georgia lynchings. Even a crazy mob will be influenced by the long record of prison sentences which have followed the August lynchings. Lynchings increased in number last year. They are a national disgrace. The people of Georgia can well be proud of the record for effort their officials are establishing in working out this evil.

JOURNAL
ATLANTA, GA.
FEB 5 1927

Lastinger Is Given Life; Twelfth Man Sentenced In Douglas Lynching

DOUGLAS, Ga., Feb. 5 (AP)—Two men are sentenced to life imprisonment and ten others for terms of from 4 to 20 years for complicity in the only lynching in Georgia in 1926.

Gaines Lastinger, sentenced Friday to life imprisonment, was the twelfth man found guilty of being a member of the band that took Dave Wright, a white man, from the county jail last August 31 and shot him to death. Tilden Smith, allegedly a member of the band, was placed on trial.

Indictments still are pending against four others, two of whom have been apprehended.

Wright was charged with killing Mrs. Zollie Rollins, at whose home he lived. Police believed the slaying occurred during an armument the man and woman had regarding Wright's activities in the liquor traffic.

Robert Lee Bullard, one of the first persons arrested after the lynching, confessed and incriminated several others. Seventeen indictments then were returned by a grand jury and ten men answered the charges by pleading guilty "by consent" of state and defense.

Major Brown was convicted in a trial and sentenced to life imprisonment.

16 CONVICTIONS IN LYNCHING CASE

Douglas, Ga., March 16.—(AP)—With the sentencing of four men today in connection with the lynching of Dave Wright on August 30 of last year, 16 persons out of 17 indicted have either been convicted or have pleaded guilty to participation in that crime.

Those sentenced today were:

John Strickland, 40, from 4 to 20 years at the state penitentiary; Tildon Smith, 22, 1 to 5 years in the penitentiary; Robert Bullard, 22, 1 to 5 years; D. B. Lott, 18, 1 to 5 years.

Two of those sentenced drew life terms; 11 drew sentences of from 4 to 20 years, while three were sentenced to from 1 to 5 years.

Wright was in the Douglas jail charged with killing Mrs. Zollie Rollins, at whose home he lived. Police believed the slaying occurred during an argument the man and woman had regarding Wright's activities in the liquor traffic.

Robert Lee Bullard, one of the first persons arrested after the lynching, confessed and incriminated several others. Seventeen indictments then were returned by a grand jury and 10 men answered the charges by pleading guilty "by consent" of state and defense.

Wright was the only person lynched in Georgia in 1926.

LIFE TERM FOR GEORGIA LYNCHERS

Douglass, Ga., March 18 (CPB)—Gaines Lastinger was found guilty and sentenced to life imprisonment last week for his part in the lynching of Dave Wright near here last August, Lastinger was the twelfth man to receive a prison sentence as second to be sentenced to a life term. the result of the lynching and the

The others were sentenced from four to twenty years.

16 CONVICTIONS IN LYNCHING CASE

Douglas, Ga., March 17.—With the sentencing of four men today in connection with the lynching of Dave Wright on August 30 of last year, 16 persons out of 17 indicted have either been convicted or have pleaded guilty to participation in that crime.

Those sentenced today were:

John Strickland, 40, from 4 to 20 years at the state penitentiary; Tildon Smith, 22, 1 to 5 years in the penitentiary; Robert Bullard, 22, 1 to 5 years; D. B. Lott, 18, 1 to 5 years.

Two of those sentenced drew life terms; 11 drew sentences of from 4 to 20 years, while three were sentenced to from 1 to 5 years.

Wright was in the Douglas jail charged with killing Mrs. Zollie Rollins, at whose home he lived. Police believed the slaying occurred during an argument the man and woman had regarding Wright's activities in the liquor traffic.

Robert Lee Bullard, one of the first persons arrested after the lynching, confessed and incriminated several others.

Wright was the only person lynched in Georgia in 1926.

SENTINEL
ROME, N. Y.
MAR 18 1927

To Jail For Lynching.

At Douglas, Georgia, yesterday, as told in last night's Sentinel, four men received jail sentences for lynching. One will serve "from four to twenty years"; and the others "from one to five years," whatever those phrases may mean under the Georgia laws. These, however, were among the lesser offenders, for previously two others had received life terms and ten "from five to twenty years," for the unlawful killing of Dave Wright, a white man.

It would have been far more impressive had the victim of the lynching been a Negro; but that Georgia is jailing, almost by wholesale, the members of any of her lynching bands marks a distinct and praiseworthy change in Southern opinion. Somewhat over a year ago the Mississippi Bar Association issued a pamphlet condemning lynching and calling upon the people of that state to unite in support of justice. It was remarked that Mississippi and Georgia had been responsible for one-fifth of all the lynchings in the states for the last forty-three years. In Mississippi the mob had killed 530 persons and in Georgia 521; in the former state only 25 of the whole number of victims had been whites.

The appeal of the Bar Association brought quick results in Mississippi. The sheriff of Cohoma county was deposed and an indictment found against him for "misdemeanor and crime while acting as such officer," when he yielded a prisoner to a band of lynchers. Three of his deputies were likewise indicted. In Georgia and some other states of the South similar efforts were made to check illegal executions on the part of the mob; but, unfortunately, the number of victims for 1926 was not reduced as compared with 1925.

LYNCHING NOT SO SAFE

(From the New York Evening Post)

Lynching is becoming a hazardous occupation. Five men in Texas were arrested and placed in jail last year in connection with the lynching of two colored men and one colored woman. Seventeen members of a mob which lynched a white man in Georgia were indicted. Eleven of these were sentenced, others being held in prison awaiting trial. The ringleader is serving a life term; the sentences of his associates range from four to twenty years.

A penalty of a different sort is the sum of $2,000 which the State of South Carolina was directed to pay to the next of kin of a man who had been the victim of mob law. Especially noteworthy is the outsting from office, under the State anti-lynching law, of a Kentucky constabl who had allowed a mob to take a Negro from his custody and lynch the prisoner.

These incidents, cited in the Annual Reprt of th National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, indicated definite progress toward putting an end to our worst national disgrace. With them should be placed the numerous instances which occurred of prevention of lynchings. The North as well as the South figured in these affairs. In fact, the sections were evenly divided in this matter, five States North of Mason and Dixon's line and five States South being the arna of the officers' successful conflicts with mobs or the outwitting of them.

The South is to be congratulated, and in no patronizing manner, upon the dermination it is evincing to stamp out a practice which has been severely codemned by some of its leaders and by part of its press as by persons living in the North. Lynchings which have marred the record of more than one Northern State in recent years have enabled Northerners to realize more keenly the difficulty of doping with the mob spirit. Every advance against it in either the North or the South is to be hailed as an advance for the entire country.

LIFE TERM FOR LYNCHER

IN GEORGIA—MAKES A RECORD FOR STATE

Douglas, Ga., March 27, 1927:—Gaines Lasinger was found guilty and sentenced to life imprisonment last week for his part in the lynching of Dave Wright near here last August. Lasinger was the twelfth man to receive a prison sentence as the result of the lynching and the second to be sentenced to a life term. The others were sentenced from four to twenty years.

Georgia Lynching Sentences Placed On Sixteen Men

DOUGLAS, GA., March 16.—(AP)—The number of convictions and sentences growing out of the lynching of Dave Wright, white man near here last August reached 16 today when a finding guilty of four men in circuit court here.

They were John Strickland, Tilden Smith, Robert Bullard and D. B. Lott. Strickland was sentenced to from four to 20 years in the penitentiary while the others drew sentences of from one to five years.

Two of those previously convicted were sentenced to life terms.

Wright was lynched after he was charged with having slain a woman who he believed had reported to officers his alleged prohibition law violations.

Lynchings- 1927
Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

Georgia.

2449

SEE GUILT PLEA IN LYNCHING

WAYCROSS, Ga., Feb. 15.—Judge H. D. Reed probably will call a special session of Coffee County Superior Court soon to hear pleas in connection with the recent Coffee County lynching case.

Solicitor General Allen B. Spence states that G. R. Bullard and D. B. Lott, both held in the Ware County jail here in connection with the Dave Wright lynching, are ready to enter guilty pleas.

No jury will be empaneled, it is understood, and no business will be presented except the two pleas. Bullard is 26 years old and Lott 18

Gaines Lastinger, sentenced two weeks ago to serve a life term, in connection with the same case, has appealed to the Supreme Court for a new trial, and is being held in the Ware jail here pending further action. Tilden Smith, whose case was a mistrial at the same session Lastinger was convicted, is held in the Coffee County jail at Douglas. John Strickland, also indicted for participation in the lynching, is held in Douglas.

The only member of the mob indicted by the grand jury who has not been arrested is Make Tanner, and a continued search is being made for him It is alleged that he was one of the leaders in the lynching.

ATLANTA, GA.
Georgian
FEB 5 1927

13TH ON TRIAL IN LYNCHING

DOUGLAS, Ga., Feb. 5.—With 12 men under sentence, two for life, the thirteenth man to be tried in connection with the lynching of Dave Wright last August was to be given a hearing Saturday. He was Tilden Smith, whose case was called at the conclusion of the trial Friday of Gaines Lastinger, who was found guilty with a recommendation of mercy and sentenced to life imprisonment.

The jury which passed on Lastinger was out 24 hours, and when the verdict was brought in Lastinger showed no signs of emotion. His case, like that of the man who followed, was tried before Judge Harry D. Reed with Solicitor A. B. Spence representing the state. A long list of men already are serving time at the state penitentiary in this case. Ten of the 12 who have been tried were given from four to twenty years each, while two, Major Brown and Lastinger, were given life.

After Smith, two others will be placed on trial. Their cases are expected to be ground out with the same dispatch which has marked the wholesale convictions thus far. Of the five indicted who have not received sentences, two were at large Saturday, while efforts to apprehend them were doubled.

Wright was lynched after he had been arrested on a charge of slaying Mrs. Zelphie Rollins, with whom he lived. Police advanced the theory that the woman was killed for di-

(Continued from Page 1.)

vulging Wright's alleged bootleg activities. A mob forced itself into the jail and removed Wright to a lonely road near here, where his body was perforated with bullets.

Robert Lee Bullard, one of the first arrested after the lynching, confessed and incriminated most of the others. All but Brown and Lastinger were sent to prison without trial on "consent pleas."

TWELFTH MAN FOUND GUILTY AFTER LYNCHING

Lastinger Given Life Sentence for Participation in Lynching of Dave Wright at Douglas.

JURY DELIBERATED FOR 24 HOURS

Tilden Smith Indicted on Same Charge, Placed on Trial Following Verdict Against Lastinger.

Douglas, Ga., February 4.—(AP)—A verdict of guilty with a recommendation of mercy, today was returned in the case of Gaines Lastinger, tried for participation in the lynching of Dave Wright last August. He was sentenced to life imprisonment.

The jury was out approximately 24 hours. Lastinger showed no sign of emotion when sentence was passed.

Tilden Smith is now on trial upon the same charge, taking of testimony having been started immediately after the conclusion of the Lastinger trial.

The case was tried before Judge Harry D. Reed, with Solicitor A. B. Spence representing the state.

Twelve Sentenced.

The life prison sentence passed on Lastinger today added another to the long list sent to the state penitentiary for the lynching of Wright. Twelve now have been sentenced as the outgrowth of the case, ten of the number drawing terms ranging from four to twenty years, while Major Brown and Lastinger were meted those of life imprisonment.

Indictments are still pending against five, including Tilden Smith, who went on trial yesterday. Two of those indicted, however, are being hunted.

The lynching of Wright followed his arrest on a charge of slaying Mrs. Zelphie Rollins, at whose home he lived. The theory of officers was that Wright killed her upon the belief she had disclosed his alleged bootlegging activities. He was removed from the jail here on the night of August 31, after the sheriff was forced to admit the mob, and carried to a spot on a little-traveled road several miles from town, where he was bound to a tree and his body perforated with bullets.

Robert Lee Bullard, one of the first taken into custody following the affair, confessed and incriminated most of those convicted. All of those sentenced entered "consent pleas" and were sent to prison without trial with the exception of Brown and Lastinger.

REED MAY CALL SESSION TO HEAR LYNCHING PLEAS

Waycross, Ga., February 15.—(Special.)—Judge H. D. Reed probably will call a special session of Coffee county superior court within several days, to hear pleas of guilty in connection with the recent Coffee county lynching case, it was announced here today.

Solicitor General Allen B. Spence says G. R. Bullard, 26, and D. B. Lott, 18, both held in the Ware county jail here in connection with the Dave Wright lynching, are ready to enter pleas, having notified him of this intention.

No jury will be empaneled, it is understood, and no business will be presented except the Bullard and Lott pleas.

Gaines Lastinger, sentenced two weeks ago to serve a life term, in connection with the same case, has appealed to the supreme court for a new trial and is being held in the Ware jail here pending action of the higher court. Tilden Smith, whose case was declared a mistrial at the same session Lastinger was convicted, is held in the Coffee county jail at Douglas. John Strickland, also indicted for participation in the lynching, is held in Douglas.

The only alleged member of the mob indicted by the grand jury who has not been apprehended is Make Tanner, and a continued search is being made for him, it being alleged that he was one of the ringleaders in the lynching.

MISTRIAL RESULTS IN LYNCHING CASE

Jury Fails To Reach Verdict on Tilson Smith, 13th Man Tried in Douglas Lynching.

Douglas, Ga., February 6.—(AP)—The jury having charge of the case of Tilson Smith, charged with murder, for being a member of the mob which lynched Dave Wright in Coffee county on August 30 last year, reported to Judge H. D. Reed this afternoon at 4 o'clock that the jury was hopelessly disagreed and Judge Reed passed an order declaring a mistrial, and excused the jury subject to call. The jury deliberated for more than 28 hours and were divided—10 for conviction and 2 for acquittal—it was said.

Judge Reed is considering reconvening Coffee superior court some time between now and the regular March term for the purpose of retrying Smith and it is reported that it has been discovered even since the case closed its evidence in this case on Friday afternoon that the state's case will be strengthened on the next trial by newly discovered evidence.

Tildon Smith will be taken back to Waycross jail for safekeeping until the next trial is ordered by Judge Reed.

Making Lynchings Unpopular

Though in 1926 the number of lynchings in the United States was larger than it was in either of the two years immediately preceding, it was far smaller than the annual average a decade and more ago.

The decrease in that form of mob ferocity is due in large part to the cooperative efforts of representative white and colored citizens in the southern states in which lynchings have been most common. Their efforts have helped spread sentiment in favor of the orderly processes of the law.

In Georgia, however, some of the officials are not waiting for sentiment to end the lynching evil. In Douglas, Ga., 12 men have been sentenced to prison—two of them to serve life terms—for participating in a lynching.

While some skeptics may doubt whether the officials at Douglas would have been as active had the person lynched been a Negro and not a white man, it must be supposed that so vigorous a reassertion of the rights of ordered justice will have a calming effect on future mobs that contemplate lynchings in Georgia.—Chicago News.

LYNCHING CASE RETRIAL SEEN

DOUGLAS, Ga., Feb. 7.—Judge H. D. Reed, who ordered a mistrial in the case of Tilden Smith, Sunday, when the jury was reported deadlocked after 28 hours' deliberation, Monday was considering call of a special court session prior to the next term in March to try again the man who was the thirteenth to face juries as a result of the lynching of Dave Wright last August.

Twelve men already are serving sentences ranging from four years to life in connection with the lynching. Two were given life terms after trial before juries, while the others took shorter sentences by offering "consent pleas." Wright was shot by a mob near Douglas after he had been arrested in connection with the slaying of a woman with whom he lived.

Smith was taken Monday to Waycross to await another hearing.

Another Lyncher Pays

Another one of the Dave Wright lynching mob—the twelfth thus far—has been convicted in Coffee county and sentenced to life imprisonment. This makes two of the 13 to get life terms while all of the other 10 also received long sentences. The thirteenth man, under indictment for participation in the lynching, is now on trial. Four others are under indictment, and no effort is being spared to apprehend them. They will yet be in the clutches of the law. Judge Reed and the Coffee officials are not temporizing with the situation. They have shown a courageous spirit of law enforcement that commands the commendation of every right thinking citizen of America. It is heartening that they are substantially backed by public opinion in the community in which the lynching occurred.

What every community in the country, where night riding terrorizers and murderers defy law and constituted authority, needs is the same firm and determined stand by the judiciary and the court officials as shown by the judge and solicitor and the sheriff and the grand jury in Coffee county. It is what is needed in Toombs county. It is what is needed in Aiken county, South Carolina.

In the Toombs county affair, involving the flogging of a prominent attorney of Lyons, who had assisted in the prosecution of alleged mob violators who were tried and acquitted, both Judge Hardeman and Solicitor Bradley displayed commendable vigor and courage in trying to bring the guilty to justice. Evidently there has not thus far been the same cooperation on the part of enforcement officials as Judge Harry Reed received in Coffee county. It is a dangerous, hazardous situation when justice capitulates to mob rule.

It is safe to say there will not be any more mob violence in Coffee county. It is the lesson that ought to be driven home in every county in which such a menacing situation exists.—Atlanta Constitution.

FOUR INDICTED IN ATTEMPTED NEGRO FLOGGING

Vienna, Ga., February 22.—(AP)—E. N. Nobles, Ed Stokes, Houston Varnum and Will Mann were indicted here today on charges of rioting and Noble and Moss were also indicted on charges of assault with attempt to murder in connection with an attempt to whip Jim Dyson, a negro, in Dooly county two weeks ago.

With one exception the men will be tried tomorrow and Judge D. A. R. Crum of the Cordele circuit will preside. The prosecution will be conducted by T. H. Davis, solicitor general.

The case has aroused more interest in the county than any other that has appeared on the docket of the Dooly superior court for the past several years.

One of the indicted men, Houston Varnum, is now in a Macon hospital seriously wounded as a result of a shooting scrape that took place in Pulaski county, February 12. His case will be continued until he is released from the hospital.

Georgia Sends Man to Penitentiary for Lynching

Douglas, Ga., Feb. 4.—(AP)—Gaines Lastinger was found guilty and sentenced to life imprisonment today for participation in the lynching of Dave Wright near here last August.

LYNCHER IS CONVICTED

Georgian Gets Life Imprisonment For Death of Dave Wright

DOUGLAS, Ga., Feb. 4.—(AP)—Gaines Lastinger was today found guilty and sentenced to life imprisonment for participation in the lynching of Dave Wright near here last August.

SEVERE PENALTIES FOR LYNCHING

Nine members of a lynching mob in Douglas, Ga., had the surprise of their lives when Judge Harry D. Reed gave eight of them prison terms and the ninth, who was mob leader, a life term in the penitentiary. They expected to go free after a perfunctory trial. The judge made this admirable statement in explanation of his course:

"Lynching is a menace to the rights and liberties of the American individual, and should be regarded so by every intelligent community. It is as much out of place in our modern civilization as would be the burning of witches.

"When a community makes public the fact that it will bend every effort to apprehend lynchers without loss of time, and mete out punishment to them, there will be few cases of lynching in that community."

Certainly that is the way to stop lynching, aided, of course by prompt and adequate punishment of such crimes as have invited lynching in the past.

That is also the way to banditry. Likewise bootlegging.—*El Centro Calif. Press.*

WRIGHT LYNCHING TRIALS RESUMED IN DOUGLAS COURT

DOUGLAS, Ga., Feb. 1.—Judge Harry D. Reed, of the Waycross circuit, reconvened the grand jury and the superior court of Coffee county Monday for the purpose of trying the five other defendants indicted for lynching Dave Wright, in Coffee county, July 30, last year. The defendants to be tried are: Gaines Lastinger, Robert Bullard, D. B. Lott, John Strickland and Tildon Smith.

Lastinger was placed on trial Monday and it took until 4 o'clock to secure a jury. After sixty traverse jurors were canvassed. Counsel for the defendant then requested time to discuss the case with their witnesses, there being a large number of witnesses on both sides. So Judge Reed recessed court until 9 o'clock Tuesday morning, at which time Solicitor A. B. Spence began putting in evidence for the state.

Judge Reed excused the witnesses in the other cases until Wednesday morning.

It is understood that of the five defendants still to be tried, D. B. Lott, Robert Bullard and John Strickland will enter pleas of guilty, but that Lastinger and Strickland both will stand trial. The defense secured an order of court bringing back to court six of the other defendants, who have already been sentenced under pleas of guilty to taking part in the lynching in an effort to show that Lastinger was not a member of the lynching party.

The state is represented by Solicitor A. B. Spence, Slater and Moore, and Chastain and Henson, while the defense in the Lastinger case is represented by the law firms of Quincey & Quincey, Dickerson & Kelley, Mingledorff & Gibson, R. J. Cornelius and J. H. Williams.

DALLAS, TEX.
Journal
JAN 24 1927

LYNCHERS PUNISHED.

The citizens of Georgia, who pleaded guilty to complicity in a lynching last August, have received sentences. One goes to prison for life and the others are let off with terms ranging from four to twenty years. Three others who declined to plead await trials. Some of the sentences seem light, but the court evidently took the view that those who received the lighter penalties were not much more than spectators. From an impartial legal point of view they were accessories and deserved more than they got, but any sort of a sentence for lynching is a forward step. The men who were sentenced were white, and the man who was their victim also was white. What those who believe in impartial justice would like to see would be as much zeal shown in apprehending those who lynch blacks.—Indianapolis News.

JOURNAL
ATLANTA, GA.
FEB 8 1927

Mistrial Is Declared In Tilden Smith Case In Lynching Inquiry

DOUGLAS, Ga., Feb. 7.—(AP)—The jury having charge of the case of Tildon Smith, charged with murder, for being a member of the mob which lynched Dave Wright in Coffee county on August 30, last year, reported to Judge Reed Sunday afternoon at 4 o'clock that the jury was hopelessly disagreed, and Judge Reed passed an order declaring a mistrial, and excused the jury subject to call. The jury deliberated for more than 28 hours and were divided, it is said, ten for conviction and two for acquittal.

Judge Reed is considering reconvening Coffee superior court some time between now and the regular March term for the purpose of retrying Smith, and it is claimed that the state's case will be strengthened on the next trial by newly discovered evidence. Tildon Smith will be taken back to Waycross jail for safe-keeping.

Lynchings-1927

Illinois.

2453

6

Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

JUDGE AWARDS MOB VICTIM'S WIDOW $3,000

Award Was Recently Refused By Judge Wm. Gemmill On A Technicality

The widow of James Thomas, 4939 Washington Park Court, who was killed by a mob Sunday, March 7, a year ago in the headquarters of Ragen's Colts, 5142 Halsted street, was awarded $3,000 Friday by Judge Jesse Holdom. This amount had been previously agreed upon by the corporation counsel's office, but when the case was heard before Judge William Gemmill, he refused the award ruling that it was not a mob attack but just a gang of political hoodlums. The case was then sent back to the chief justice for reassignment.

Invited In Place

Thomas was employed at the Whiteway Cafe, 6303 Halsted street, prior to the time of the murder. On the night of the killing, he was en route to his home when he was stopped by a man who asked him to go to the Ragen's Colts headquarters and have a drink. Soon after he entered, the melee began. He was beaten into unconsciousness.

In a statement made to Lieut. Erlaner a few hours later in the County hospital Thomas said: "After I told them I did not have any money, one of them shook me by the shoulder and told me that if I did not have any money I would be killed."

Hugh "Stubby" McGovern, 835 W. 53rd street, was taken to the hospital before Thomas died and was identified as one of the men who had assaulted him. Captain Ben Wright of the Stock Yards station made a spirited attempt to have the injunction restraining the police from entering the place dissolved.

Lynchings-1927
Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

Kansas

2451

THREE KANSANS, RIOT VICTIMS, TO FILE $35,000 SUIT

COFFEYVILLE, Kans., May 4.—Napoleon Anderson, billiard hall proprietor; Herschel Ford, an aged janitor, and Gus Hughes, victims who were seriously injured in the riot there last month have filed damage suits to the aggregate sum of $35,000.

Anderson was shot through the legs. Ford was shot through the hip, and Hughes was beaten and stabbed in the back by the mob of whites who stormed the colored section of the city.

The riot was precipitated by the report that three colored men had held two white high school girls in their rooms and attacked them. The truth of the report has not been proven, and it has since been concluded that white men with blackened hands and faces committed the crime.

Ten whites, two being women, have been indicted in connection with the riot.

Coffeyville Negroes File $45,000 Suits

Pacific Coast News Bureau

Coffeyville, Kans., Aug. 17.—Three suits totaling $45,000 have been filed against the City of Coffeyville for damages as the result of alleged injuries suffered the night of rioting March 17.

N. B. Anderson recently filed suit for $10,000 damages. Two other suits filed by colored citizens of Coffeyville are for $10,000 and $25,000 each.

Lynchings-1927
Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

Kentucky

2452

SHERIFF GIVEN MEDAL; BALKED MOB IN KENTUCKY

Interracial Commission Is Donor Of Trophy Given Him By The Governor

FRANKFORT, Ky., April 19.—Sheriff P. R. Brown of Graves County, who in 1926 saved a colored man from mob violence at Mayfield, Ky., has been awarded a medal by the Southern Interracial Commission, Governor Fields announced today. The award was the first of its kind to be made in Kentucky, and Governor Fields, in sending the medal to Brown in behalf of the Commission, congratulated him upon the "splendid service" he had rendered his state and nation.

The handsome bronze medal bears a heroic figure with drawn sword standing in front of a temple of justice, surrounded by the legend, "In Defense of Law and Civilization." The award was passed upon by a commission composed of Hon. Hugh M. Dorsey, former Governor of Georgia, Gov. John W. Martin, of Florida, the late Governor Henry L. Whitfield of Mississippi, Mrs. J. H. McCoy of Alabama, George B. Dealey, Editor of the Dallas News, and Marshall Ballard, Editor of the New Orleans Item.

When on June 21 of 1926 a mob gathered about the Mayfield jail to get Willie Busby, charged with attacking a Caucasian girl, Brown gathered up his deputies and drove seventy-five miles at night through two rivers to carry the terrorized man to safety.

MEDAL FO... WHO THWARTED ...

Frankfort, Ky., April 29.—Sheriff P. R. Brown of Graves county, who in 1926 saved a man from mob violence at Mayfield, Ky., has been awarded a medal by the southern interracial commission, Governor Fields announced recently. The award was the first of its kind to be made in Kentucky, and Governor Fields, in sending the medal to Brown in behalf of the commission, congratulated him upon the splendid service he had rendered his state and nation.

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Sheriff Given Medal For Saving Negro

Kentucky Governor Presents Trophy On Behalf Interracial Commission

Frankfort, Ky. April 19—Sheriff P. R. Brown of Graves County, who in 1926 saved a Negro from mob violence at Mayfield, Ky., has been awarded a medal by the Southern Interracial Commission, Governor Fields announced today. The award was the first of its kind to be made in Kentucky, and Governor Fields, in sending the medal to Brown in behalf of the Commission, congratulated him upon the "splendid service" he had rendered his state and nation.

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When on June 21 of 1926 a mob gathered about the Mayfield jail to get Willie Busby, Negro charged with attacking a white girl, Brown gathered up his deputies and drove seventy-five miles at night through two rivers to carry the Negro to safety.

SHERIFF IS GIVEN MEDAL FOR SAVING MAN FROM MOB

Frankfort, Ky., April 19.—P. R. Brown, Sheriff of Gaves county, who in 1926 saved a Negro from mob violence at Mayfield, Ky. was awarded a medal by the Southern Inter-racial Commission. Governor Fields announced today.

The award was the first of its kind to be made in Kentucky, and Governor Fields, in sending the medal to Brown in behalf of the Commission, cogratulated him upon the "splendid services" he rendered Kentucky.

The medal, bronze with a figure with sword drawn standing in front of a temple of justice, is engraved "in defense of law and civilization.'

When a mob gathered about the Mayfield jail June 21 of last year to get Willie Busby, NEGRO charged with attacking a white girl, Brown gathered up his deputies and drove seventy-five miles at night through two rivers to carry the Negro to safety.

Kentucky-Virginia Lynching May Cause Government Probe

Whitesburg, Ky., December 1.—(AP) Federal investigation into the lynching early Wednesday of Leonard Woods, negro, who was taken from the Letcher county jail by a mob, may result because two of six prisoners who escaped in the excitement were government prisoners.

This statement was made by Harry L. Moore, county attorney, who was preparing his report today to forward it to Governor W. J. Fields at Frankfort. The federal prisoners and the four state prisoners who fled from the battered jail still were at large tonight.

Moore said he had established that the leaders of the mob came from Wise county, Virginia, home of Hershel Deaton, whose slaying, allegedly by Woods, led to the lynching. "Those who broke into the jail and carried the negro away were from Virginia," Moore said. He plans to continue his investigation and to present what facts he obtains to the January grand jury.

FEDERAL PROBE OF LYNCHING IS URGED

Government Agents May Investigate Killing Of Kentucky Negro By Large Mob

WHITESBURG, KY., Dec. 1—(AP)—Federal investigation into the Lynching early Wednesday of Leonard Woods negro, who was taken from the Letcher County jail by a mob, may result because two of six prisoners who escaped in the excitement were government prisoners.

This statement was made by Harry L. Moore, county attorney, who was preparing his report today to forward it to Governor W. J. Fields at Frankport. The federal prisoners and the four state prisoners who fled from the battered jail still were at large tonight.

Mr. Moore said he had established that the leaders of the mob came from Wise County, Va., home of Hershel Deaton, whose slaying, allegedy by Woods, led to the lynching. "Those who broke into the jail and carried the negro away were from Virginia," Mr Moore said. He plans to continue his investigation and to present what facts he obtains to the January Grand Jury.

NEGROES TO HANG FRIDAY, GOVERNOR FIELDS DECIDES

Frankfort, Ky., November 23.—(AP) Nathan Bard and Bunyan Fleming, negroes, will hang Friday, November 25, Governor W. J. Fields announced tonight. The governor said he was notified by Federal Judge Charles I. Dawson that the mandate of the supreme court had been received and notice would be served upon the sheriff of Hopkins county tomorrow.

The governor said in view of this, he would rescind his stay granted the negroes today, and the execution would be held shortly after sunrise Friday morning as originally scheduled.

Troops from Mayfield have been ordered to the scene of the hanging, the governor said. Adjutant General James A. Kehoe left here late today for Madisonville, where he will assume command of the guardsmen.

The negroes will be taken from the Eddyville penitentiary to the Hopkins county jail by the soldiers tomorrow.

The negroes were given the death sentence for criminally assaulting a white girl at Madisonville last year. The United States supreme court, Monday, refused to review their case and ended their last hope for life.

KENTUCKY NEGROES HANGED 'INNOCENT'

Charged With Assault On White Girl, Two Die Protesting Innocence To Last

MADISONVILLE, KY., Nov. 25.—(AP)—Hopkins County today claims the lives of two negro men for a criminal attack upon a young white girl. For any other capital offense, Nathan Bard and Bunyan Fleming would have been electrocuted at the Eddyville penitentiary but for such crime the state specifically requires hanging in the county in which the act was committed.

Columbus Holis, negro, now in the Eddyville penitentiary, accused them of the crime and himself escaped with a 20 year penitentiary sentence. With a reiteration of their innocence and a message [illegible] who negroes were hanged from a scaffold they had watched workmen prepare in the jail yard facing their cells. An enormous throng, estimated as high as 8,000 persons, had been present when Fleming was hanged after he, in a calm voice, said "I am going an innocent man. I hope to meet you all in Heaven." A rapidly dwindling crowd saw Bard drop to his death at the end of a rope that was being used on its thirteenth victim.

Bard went away, "not mad at anybody." Addressing the spectators as "brothers and sisters of Jesus Christ," he told them they were looking in the face of an innocent man.

J. Phil Hanna, hangman of Epworth, Ill., and Sheriff Jess Grisson, of White County, Ill., came here to assist Sheriff Charles Barnett with the executions. Hanna, who had assisted in fifty-six previous hangings, brought his own equipment of hoods and ropes with him. Under his direction the executions were speedily carried out.

Lynchings - 1927

Missouri.

2454

Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

Letter to Governor Baker Asks Action in Lynching

The following letter has been sent to Governor Sam A. Baker asking him to take some action in the Braggadocio, Mo., lynching:

Honorable Sam A. Baker,
Governor of Missouri,
State Capitol,
Jefferson City.

No doubt you have had called to your attention the lynching of a Negro, one Will Sherrod, by a mob in Braggadocio, Mo., Sunday night, May 22. So far as can be determined, Sherrod was merely suspected of a crime and had neither confessed or been identified. Even if this were not true, he still was entitled, under our state laws and the Constitution of the United States, to a trial and punishment under the law. Instead, he was taken from the Pemiscot county jail and lynched.

We respectfully recall for you that this is the fourth lynching in Missouri within the last four years. Two of these crimes against law and order and the good name of the state have been committed during your administration, the one cited above and the lynching in Excelsior Springs on August 7, 1925. One other mob murder occurred just prior to your taking office, on December 18, 1924 —too late for any investigation or action by your predecessor in office.

In not a single one of these instances when law has been flouted by blood-hungry mobs, has a word come forth from you, the governor of our state. No assurance has been given the Negro citizens of the state and the law abiding white people as well, that the governor of the commonwealth is not in sympathy with the mob's method of executing justice.

Ex-Governor Hyde offered a personal reward of $300 for information leading to the arrest and trial of members of the mob. Governors of other states where lynchings have occurred have been outspoken in their condemnation of mob outrages and many have been active in seeking to blot out lynching. The governor of Arkansas, only a few weeks ago, went to the scene of the Little Rock lynching. Only Missouri has kept silent.

The Negroes of Missouri would like to know whether their governor is going to take any steps toward punishing the members of mobs or toward creating sentiment that will make mobs know that decent people, including the governor, do not intend to let the mob supersede the law. Negro voters recall that in the Republican party platform upon which you were elected, there was a section decrying mob violence and lynching. We would be glad to know whether there has ever been any message from you to the state legislature touching upon the necessity or advisability of a law to stamp out mob violence in the state.

It is but natural that these citizens expect a governor elected on such a platform to at least say he subscribes to its sentiment, whether he acts in accordance with its provisions or not.

The Kansas City Call.

Lynchings. 1927
Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

North Carolina.

2460

Lynching Inquest In North Carolina Causes Much Jest

(By The Associated Negro Press)

Bailey, N. C.—While the coroner's jury was trying to determine who fired the shots that killed Tom Bradshaw, accused of assaulting a 10 year old white girl, near here Sunday morning, those who composed the posse jested and joked with the hundreds of men, women and children who had gathered to view the gruesome spectacle.

The killing of Bradshaw by a posse of white men, brought to an end a three day man-hunt which had stirred three counties. Following the report of the assault, Bradshaw was arrested Sunday. When he was carried to the home of the victim for identification, there were rumors of staging a neck-tie party and "giving him what he deserved." With open threats rampant, three officers led Bradshaw from the home toward the jail.

When the party had gone a short distance, the prisoner realizing his fate and knowing that the guard was insufficient to protect him, asked permission to pray. Upon receiving the permission, he suddenly changed his mind and made a dash for the woods. He gained his objective and for three days, men scoured the woods for his whereabouts, with the aid of fox hounds owned by Jonah Walker.

Tuesday afternoon the dogs "jumped their prey" and drove him to the open spaces. As he appeared on the hill top fringing the woods, three shots were fired and he pitched forward, having been instantly killed. Thus, another lynching is added to North Carolina's record.

At the inquest, the conversations centered around the efficiency of the hounds more than around the tragedy that had occurred. The fact that another human being had been lynched meant little to those who felt happy over the killing of the man. And jokes were passed around freely, as the physician examined the body and expressed the opinion that the shock had caused the death, instead of the shots. The identity of the persons who fired the shots, however, could not be ascertained and the inquest will be continued.

When the report of the lynching reached the neighboring towns, hundreds of white people motored to the scene of the killing and pictures of the dead body were taken. Among the crowd were scores of children; some having been brought by their parents and others by ministers of the gospel, who were perhaps using this method of proving to the young ones, the efficacy of the admonition "the way of the transgressor is hard." Anyway, they were there and doubtless when they grow up will be as efficient as their forefathers in meting out "justice of the Southern variety" to Negroes who transgress.

This lynching mars North Carolina's record, but at the same time proves that Jonah Walker's fox hounds were just as good blood hounds and much praise is being heaped upon "Raleigh" the dog which led the chase

NEEDLEMAN SUES FOR MOB ATTACK IN NORTH CAROLINA

Raleigh, N. C., July 27.—(AP)—The Needleman case, with its memories of mutilation and masked mob justice, has returned to the spotlight.

Joseph H. Needleman, of Philadelphia, is seeking $100,000 compensatory and punitive damages of 32 defendants with homes in Martin, Wayne and Lenoir counties, as an outgrowth of mutilation of his person in 1925 for which 28 persons either were fined or sentenced following prosecution by Solicitor Don Gilliam at special term of Martin county court two years ago. Judge N. A. Sinclair, at that time sentenced the ring leaders to long terms in the state prison.

Needleman filed his suit in federal district court at Washington, N. C., it was learned from United States Marshal R. W. Ward here today. Answers to his petition will be filed in district court in about three weeks.

Needleman's mutilation took place a few days after his arrest on a charge of attacking a Williamston, N. C., girl, but the charge later was dropped.

When the mutilation episode occurred rewards were offered for the guilty parties and widespread arrests followed as members of the mob hurried to turn state's evidence.

MOBBISTS SUED FOR $100,000 BY THEIR VICTIM

RALEIGH, N. C., AUG. 10. Joseph Needleman now living in Philadelphia, who was attacked and mutilated by a band of thirty-two years ago when it was thought that he had criminially assaulted a Caucasian girl, has filed suit for $100,000 against the thirty-two defendants with homes in Martin, Wayne and Lenoir counties. Twenty-eight person were fined or sentenced when brought to trial for the outrage.

Needleman in his charge says that he had courted Ethel Griffin, young Caucasian girl of Wilmington, N. C., for only a short time, when youths in that community warned him that a Jew could not show attentions to the Grimn girl and warned him to give her up.

The girl made a sensational accusation against Needleman which afterwards proved false. She said he made improper advances toward her while out riding and then attacked her. A short time thereafter, Needleman was taken to a wood by a band of Caucasians. Arrest followed the crime and members of the mob hurried to turn state's evidence.

Needleman filed his suit in Federal District Court in Washington, D. C.

VICTIM OF GIRL'S PLOT ASKS FOR HUGE SUM

RALEIGH, N. C.—Mutilation and masked mob justice has resulted in a suit for $100,000 damages. The attentions of a Jew for a Carolina white girl and her false accusation against him resulting in his castration by whites is the basis for the suit.

The victim, Joseph Needleman of Philadelphia, who charges that the attack was prompted by race prejudice, is seeking $100,000 compensatory and punitive damages of 32 defendants with homes in Martin, Wayne and Lennir counties as an outgrowth of mutilation of his person in 1925. Twenty-eight persons either were fined or sentenced for the crime, the leaders receiving long terms in the state prison.

Needleman, in his charge, says that he had courted Ethel Griffin, young white girl of Willmington, N. C., for only a short time, when youths in the local community warned him that a Jew could not show attentions to the Griffin girl and warned him to give her up.

The girl made a false accusation against Needleman, which later proved false. She said that he made improper advances toward her while out riding with her and attacked her. A short time thereafter Needleman was abducted and taken to a wood by a band of whites. An operation was performed upon him. Arrest followed the crime and members of the mob hurried to turn state evidence.

Needleman filed his suit in Federal District court in Washington, D. C.

MUTILATED BY N. C. MOB SUES FOR $100,000

Victim Of Race Prejudice And Girl's Plot, Asks A Huge Sum Against 32 Defendants

RAIEIGH, N. C., Aug. 3.—Mutilation and masked mob justice has resulted in a suit for $100,000 damages. The attentions of a jew for a Carolina white girl and her false accusation against him resulting in his castration by whites is the basis for the suit.

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Lynchings - 1927
Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

South Carolina.

2455

New Evidence Is Offered In Aiken Lynching Case For A New Trial Of Alleged Mob Members

GOVERNOR IS SILENT

Warrants Will Be Obtained On Order From Governor Richards. Evidence In Hands

(Special To St. Louis Argus)

COLUMBIA, S. C., Aug. 10—Only the word of Gov. John G. Richards of South Carolina is awaited for action to be taken in swearing out warrants which will place under arrest white men believed to be responsible for the lynching of three colored Americans in Aikens, Oct. 8, last. W. W. Rogers, white, secret service agent who has been investigating the case, announced Saturday that he has evidence in hand sufficient to indict the lynchers.

Was Horrible Crime

The case was the lynching of Miss Bertha Lowman and her two brothers Clarence and Demon Lowman here after Clarence had been freed on an appeal of a charge growing out of the slaying of a white officer. The three were taken from prison by a mob, hanged and their bodies riddled with bullets.

Pass The Buck

Gov. McLeod, in office at the time of the lynching, characterized it as the most brutal crime ever committed in the state and a blotch on American civilization and the name of South Carolina. Declaring that he would do all within his power to bring the lynchers to justice after the grand jury investigating the case had failed to return any indictments, he assigned Rogers to obtain evidence upon which he promised to ask for a special term of court. Later, however, the governor made a statement in which he said Attorney General John M. Daniel and Solicitor Berte D. Carter, who were active in prosecuting the case, recommended that the special term not be called and that the matter go over until the January term of court.

Called Evidence Insufficient

Gov. Richards took office on January 18. The Aiken court met a few days later and with Daniel and Carter directing the proceedings, Rogers' evidence was placed before the grand jury. That body brought out a report that it considered the facts insufficient to warrant presentments against any alleged member of the mob that seized the three colored Americans who were charged with the murder of Sheriff Henry H. Howard, white of Aiken, in 1925.

Has Additional Evidence

"The case is now complete, Rogers said. "All information and exhibits I have obtained in by investigation of the lynching of Miss Bertha, Clarence and Demon Lowman on October 8, have been turned over to Gov. Richards, I have continued my investigation under cover since the grand jury this spring refused to act upon the facts laid before it, and have secured additional evidence."

Rogers' statement was made in reply to an inquiry about the status of the Aiken case, prompted by the issuance of a charter today for the Rogers National Detective Bureau, Inc., of which he is directing head.

Governor Is Silent

"I have absolutely nothing to say in regard to the Aiken lynching case," Gov. Richards said when informed that Detective Rogers had said he was only waiting instructions from the chief executive before swearing out warrants for the alleged lynchers.

Lynchings-1927
Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

South Carolina

2456

ANOTHER LYNCHER PAYS.

Another one of the Dave Wright lynching mob—the twelfth thus far—has been convicted in Coffee county and sentenced to life imprisonment. This makes two of the twelve to get life terms while all of the other ten also received long sentences. The thirteenth man, under indictment for participation in the lynching, is now on trial. Five others are under indictment, and no effort is being spared to apprehend them. They will yet be in the clutches of the law. Judge Reed and the Coffee officials are not temporizing with the situation. They have shown a courageous spirit of law enforcement that commands the commendation of every right thinking citizen of America. It is heartening that they are substantially backed by public opinion in the community in which the lynching occurred.

What every community in the country, where night riding terrorizers and murderers defy law and constituted authority, needs is the same firm and determined stand by the judiciary and the court officials as shown by the judge and solicitor and the sheriff and the grand jury in Coffee county. It is what is needed in Toombs county. It is what is needed in Aiken county, South Carolina.

In the Toombs county affair, involving the flogging of a prominent attorney of Lyons, who had assisted in the prosecution of alleged mob violators who were tried and acquitted, both Judge Hardeman and Solicitor Bradley displayed commendable vigor and courage in trying to bring the guilty to justice. Evidently there has not thus far been the same cooperation on the part of enforcement officials as Judge Harry Reed received in Coffee county. It is a dangerous, hazardous situation when justice capitulates to mob rule.

It is safe to say there will not be any more mob violence in Coffee county. It is the lesson that ought to be driven home in every county in which such a menacing situation exists.

S. C. SENATE COMMENDS GOVERNOR'S STAND AGAINST LYNCHING

(Preston News Service)

Columbia, S. C., Feb. 12.—A resolution commending Governor Richards for his expressed determination to bring to justice lynchers of the three members of the Lowman family at Aiken, has been unanimously adopted by the South Carolina senate.

The Lowmans, awaiting trial for murder charges, were taken from the jail and shot to death on the night of October 8, 1926. One of them was a woman. A grand jury failed to return indictments. The resolution termed the lynching as a "disgrace on our state and a sin against humanity."

BILL OF SOUTH CAROLINA GIVES POWER TO CHIEF TO REMOVE 'LYNCH COPS'

COLUMBIA, S. C., Mar. 23.—The Purdy Bill, empowering the Governor of the State to remove from office any sheriff or peace officer from whom a prisoner is taken by a mob, was returned to the South Carolina Assembly Friday with the recommendation that it become a law. The minutes of the meeting of the judiciary committee show that 11 voted for a favorable report and seven against it.

The bill was introduced by H. K. Purdy of Jasper county last week and was referred to the judiciary committee. Those opposing the bill claimed that it was a "slap" at Aiken, where the Lowmans, including one woman, were lynched last October.

The "Aiken Lynching" and the failure of the grand jury appointed to investigate the affair, to indict any of the alleged lynchers were sharply denounced Friday in the Senate when Senator J. F. Williams of Aiken sought to recall from the house a concurrent resolution passed by the Senate Tuesday in which the assembly pledged its cooperation and support to Governor Richards in his efforts to bring to justice the perpetrators of the crime.

TO CONTINUE LYNCHING PROBE

(A. N. P.)

AIKEN, S. C., Feb. 5—According to an announcement made Friday by B. D. Carter, solicitor of the Judicial District embracing Aiken, the probe of the lynching of three Negroes will be continued and every effort made to bring the offenders to justice. This investigation, which was instituted by former Governor McLeod, aroused the entire section and the continuance is heartily approval by the citizenry of Aiken and the outlying towns.

The lynching in which one of the victims was a woman was described by ex-Govenor as one of the most horrible crimes ever perpetrated. The announcement further states that the investigation will begin this week.

Advancement of Colored People, 69 5th Ave, New York."

The Association also telegraphed Governor John G. Richards, urging arrest of the persons charged in the affidavits with having had a part in the lynching. The telegram, signed by Mr. Johnson, is as follows:

"In view of failure of Aiken County Grand Jury to indict lynchers of three members of Lowman family, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People urges immediate issuance of warrants on information and belief and arrest of persons named in sworn affidavits as having taken part in the mob murder which disgraced your State and the Nation."

Two Lancaster S.C. Jan 28

LYNCHING PROBE UNDER WAY; STAR WITNESS IS GIVEN SNUB

Aiken, Jan. 26.—With picked officers on guard and witnesses brought here from Columbia to testify, the Lowman lynching case investigation got under way today before the Aiken county grand jury.

Negro prisoners in the Aiken jail on October 8, when Bertha, Demon and Clarence Lowman were removed from the jail and shot to death in the woods near the city, testified.

Considerable excitement was caused here during the day when Lucy Mooney, star witness for the State who had previously, in affidavits, connected several persons with the case, appeared in a local cafe. Patrons of the place, asserting that she was part negro, left their seats when she was given a table. Much discussion of this occurence took place on the streets during the afternoon.

Attorney John M. Daniel retired with the grand jury this afternoon to outline the State's case, following a special charge by Judge Henry Johnson.

Rigid secrecy veiled the workings of the grand jury, in compliance with the State law. No inkling ow what testimony was heard or of the result of the day's session was available.

Several police officers have been implicated by statements of the Mooney woman, as have four negroes, Joe Rouse, Cliff Robinson, Walter Jennings and Charlie Chamberlain.

AIKEN LYNCHING SUSPECTS FOUND

Columbia, S. C. August 6.—(AP)—Detective W. W. Rogers is ready to swear out warrants in the Aiken lynching case, he announced today and is only awaiting the word to act from Governor John G. Richards.

"The case is now complete," Rogers said. "All information and exhibits I have obtained in my investigation of the lynching of Bertha, Clarence and Demon Lowman on October 8, have been turned over to Governor Richards.

"I have continued my investigation under cover since the grand jury this spring refused to act upon the facts laid before it," he went on, "and have secured additional evidence."

Rogers' statement was made in reply to an inquiry about the status of the Aiken case, prompted by the issuance of a charter today for the Rogers National Detective Bureau, Inc., of which he is directing head.

"I still have a state commission," he said, "and am working on several important cases besides the Aiken affair—notably the Willis murder case in Greenville. This bureau is a sideline with me, undertaken because I have received numerous requests to make private investigations. My state commission does not expire until the first of next year and unless Governor Richards sees fit to dispense with my services in the meantime, I shall continue to employ my abilities for the state as he may direct."

GOVERNOR SILENT ON LYNCHING CASE.

Liberty Hill, S. C., August 6.—(AP) "I have absolutely nothing to say in regard to the Aiken lynching case," Governor Richards, at his home here today, said when informed Detective W. W. Rogers had made a statement at Columbia that he was only awaiting instructions from the chief executive before swearing out warrants for the alleged lynchers of the three Lowman negroes. Governor Richards arrived here this morning to spend the week-end.

ATLANTA, GA., Constitution

AUG 7 1927

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JOURNAL

Aiken - S. C.

AUG 10 1927

ROGERS HAS EVIDENCE

To Convict Parties Who Lynched the Lowman Negroes

A statement that he was prepared to swear out warrants for alleged members of the Aiken mob that lynched three negroes last October was made in Columbia Saturday by W. W. Rogers, who as a State detective, investigated the triple slaying for both Governor McLeod and Governor Richards. Only the instructions of the Governor were wanted, he said, before taking this step.

Reached by telephone at his Liberty Hill home, where he went for the week-end early Saturday, Governor Richards declared he had "absolutely no comment to make" when informed of the purport of the detective's statement.

"The case is now complete," Rogers said. "All information and exhibits I have obtained in my investigation of the lynching of Bertha, Clarence and Demon Lowman on October 8, have been turned over to Governor Richards."

The investigation did not end, Rogers said, when the Aiken grand jury in January, of this year, refused to make a presentment after hearing a large number of witnesses summoned by the detective, examined.

"I have continued my investigation under cover," he went on, "since the grand jury refused to act upon the facts laid before it and I have secured additional evidence."

Rogers made his statement when asked of the status of the Aiken lynching case in view of the fact that he has opened an office in Columbia for a private detective agency, which was granted a charter by Secretary of State Blackwell, under the name of the Rogers National Detective Bureau.

Saying he still held a commission as a State constable, the officer, who has served seven years under four Governors, explained that he was continuing his work on a number of State cases, notably the Willis murder case in Greenville, which is scheduled for trial this week.

"My State commission does not expire until the first of next year," he said, "and unless Governor Richards sees fit to dispense with my services in the meantime, I shall continue to employ my abilities for the State as he may direct."

STANDARD

Aiken - S.C.

AUG 12 1927

ROGERS AGAIN "READY" IN LYNCHING MATTER

Detective Claims to Have Obtained Additional Evidence and Says He Is Ready to Convict Now.

The Associated Press sent out from Columbia last Saturday the following story relative to the lynching of the three Lowman negroes near Aiken last October:

A statement that he was prepared to swear out warrants for alleged members of the Aiken mob that lynched three Negroes last October was made in Columbia yesterday by W. W. Rogers who as a state detective investigated the triple slaying for both Governor McLeod and Governor Richards. Only the instructions of the governor were wanted, he said, before taking this step.

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Lynchings. 1927
Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

South Carolina.

2457

Failure to Indict Aiken Lynchers Brings New Demand For Federal Law.

New York, Feb. 12—(Failure of the Aiken County, S. C., Grand Jury yesterday to indict members of the mob which last October 8 lynched a Colored woman and two men of the Lowman family, after removing their victims from the Aiken County Jail, today brought a telegram from the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People to President Coolidge, asking him to urge passage of a federal anti-lynching law upon Congress; and a statement from Walter White, Assistant Secretary of the Advancement Association and first to investigate the Aiken lynchings, declaring that the names of the lynchers are known throughout Aiken County.

At the Officers of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 69 Fifth Avenue, Mr. White said:

"The names of the Aiken County lynchers are known throughout the County. Last October, I went down there. I spoke to hundreds of white citizens. The names were freely mentioned. I sent those names in a seven-page letter giving circumstantial facts, to former Governor Thomas G. McLeod of South Carolina. Sworn affidavits of people in the jail at the time the mob victims removed, and of others, corroborated my charges that the sheriff and officers of the law connived in delivering the prisoners to the Aiken mob. What evidence was at hand. The present Governor has this evidence. The State Detective, W. W. Rogers, had it. And presumably, the state attorneys also had it.

"The failure of the Aiken County Grand Jury to indict is nothing more nor less than a proclamation that South Carolina, despite the appeals of its Governor, its leading editors, and the Presiding Judge, intends to stand by lynchers within its borders because the mob murderers are white and the victims black. To call such a State civilized is to travesty the word."

The telegram to President Coolidge, signed by James Weldon Johnson, Secretary, and by Mary White Ovington, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, is as follows:

January 29, 1927.

Hon. Calvin Coolidge,
President of the United States,
The White House,
Washington, D. C.

Yesterday the Grand Jury of Aiken County, South Carolina, refused to return indictments against the known mob murderers of a Colored woman and two Colored men, members of the Lowman family who were removed from the Aiken County jail and done to death October eighth last. Mr. Walter White, Assistant Secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, first investigated this lynching an placed in the hands of the Governor of South Carolina evidence subsequently substantiated by sworn affidavits, identifying a number ofthe lynchers and stating that officers of the law had connived and participated in the mob murders. This evidence, corroborated by the New York World's special correspondent, led to official investigation by the State. The present Governor of South Carolina and leading newspapers have demanded indictments. The names of the lynchers are no secret in Aiken County. Whatever the evidence presented by the State, the action of the Aiken County Grand Jury serves notice upon the country and upon the civilized world that South Carolina is unwilling and unable to punish mob murderers in its midst, that law and orderly society in a State of the United States break down in face of the mob. The failure to indict is the more flagrant in that one of the mob's victims had been acquitted in court trial and the other two victims were clearly innocent and would without doubt also have been acquitted. No stronger argument could be presented to the people of the United States for federal intervention to stamp out lynching, the Shame of America. We therefore again solemnly urge upon you as spokesman for the Nation and leader of its public opinion, that you make publice utterance upon this disgraceful situation; and that you call upon the Congress of the United States to enact a federal anti-lynching law.

"James Weldon Johnson, Sec'y
Mary White Ovington, Chairman
Board of Directors, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Sixty-Nine Fifth Avenue,
New York."

The Association also telegraphed Governor John G. Richards, urging arrest of the persons charged in the affidavits with having had a part in the lynching. The telegram signed by Mr. Johnson is as follows:

"In view of failure of Aiken County Grand Jury to indict lynchers of three members of Lowman family, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People urges immediate issuance of warrants on information and belief and arrest of persons named in sworn affidavits as having taken part in the mob murder which disgraced your State and the Nation."

Sumter S.C.
JAN 27 1927

AIKEN GRAND JURY CALLED ON TO DO DUTY

Judge Johnson Makes Brief But Forcible Charge in Which He Calls For Action on Lynching

Aiken, Jan. 24.—(AP)—With the triple lynching of last October slated for its inquisitorial attention, the 1927 Aiken county grand jury was charged today by Judge J. Henry Johnson to "say to Aiken county, to South Carolina, and to America that you are going to bring them (the lynchers) to justice, or that you don't propose to do it."

Five minutes of the judge's charge, which consumed nearly an hour in delivery, was all the attention officially taken in court today of the pending renewal of grand jury inquiry into the deaths of Bertha, Demon and Clarence Lowman, negroes, who were taken from the county jail and shot to death on the morning of October 8. The grand jury was given two score bills of indictment for action as soon as its organization, delayed by tardiness of members and the necessity for drawing a new member, was completed, and it was believed that court officials planned to have the jurors finish all their other duties before calling the lynching case, in order that it might receive undivided attention and have no limit of time.

Solicitor Berte D. Carter would make no statement of his plans for proceeding with the inquiry, only smiling when reminded that he had said last week that the evidence in hand against suspected members of the mob would be laid before the grand jurors this week.

Attorney General John M. Daniel, in charge of the prosecution for the state and the only person under the law who has a right to demand to be present when the grand jury is examining witnesses, was not in the courthouse today. Nor was W. W. Rogers, state detective, who has worked up the case and who was given credit by Governor McLeod in a public statement for obtaining evidence upon which the then chief executive thought a special term of court was warranted.

But others whose names have figured in the publicity aftermath of the tragedy were there. Sheriff Nolie Robinson, who was quoted by Governor McLeod as denying charges made in prisoners' affidavits that he was concerned in the lynching, performed his usual duties, rounding up witnesses for the grand jjury, and presenting them to the solicitor to be sworn. Present too was the jailer, Rupert Taylor, who told how he and Sheriff Robinson had been overpowered in the darkened jail by members of the mob and held prisoner while the lynchers made off with their victims.

Another was J. Percy Hart, state constable until the first of the year when his name was dropped from the rolls by Governor McLeod. Hart was the first of the officers named in the affidavits to issue a formal statement denying participation in the affair. Today he was sworn as a witness in 15 or more liquor cases.

Late in the afternoon, Edgar A. Brown of Barnwell, lately a candidate for the United States senate, was seen in the courtroom. Mr. Brown was quoted last fall as having said he had been approached with a view to retaining his services for the defense in the event the lynching investigation involved certain unnamed persons. Today, he had no statement to make, except that he was interested in a number of cases on the docket.

Spectators were few today. Most of the handful of persons in the courtroom appeared to be there be-

AIKEN LYNCHING JURY IS SCORED BY GOVERNOR

Columbia, S. C., January 29.—(AP)—Deploring the failure of the Aiken grand jury to bring in presentments in the Lowman lynching case yesterday as "a miserable miscarriage of justice," Governor John G. Richards today promised the people of South Carolina that if it lies within his power "the Aiken lynchers shall be brought to justice."

"I am familiar with the evidence gathered by Governor McLeod and his officers, and have secured myself, and the Governor and I am convinced it is sufficient to make out a prima facie case. The failure of the grand jury to present those charged before it must rest squarely upon their shoulders."

RECORD
Kingstree, S.C.
FEB 3 1927

NO INDICTMENTS IN LYNCHING CASE

REPORTING INSUFFICIENT EVIDENCE INVESTIGATORS ARE DISMISSED.

Aiken, Jan. 28.—Finishing three days of consideration of the Lowman lynching case of October 8, in which Bertha, Clarence and Demon Lowman, Aiken negroes, were taken from the county jail at night and shot to death by a mob, the Aiken county grand jury reported to the court late today that it did not have sufficient evidence on which to base any requests for indictments.

"We do not feel that sufficient evidence has come before us at this time to warrant our asking for indictments against any one or more parties," said the report which was read in court by J. E. Edenfield, secretary of the jury, at 5 o'clock.

The jury was dismissed from further attendence by Judge J. Henry Johnson who said that though he regretted exceedingly that evidence insufficient to indict had been obtained, he believed the jurors were acting "through no ulterior motive."

The brief report to the court added that though the jurors realized that great publicity had been given to the crime, they hoped equal publicity would be given to the statement that "we do positively condmen lynching, mob violence or anything else that would reflect on the state." The report expressed thanks to the court, to Attorney General John M. Daniel who has personally directed the state's case, to Solicitor Bert D. Carter, assisting the attorney general and to W. W. Rogers, of Columbia, state constable who has been working on the case since assigned to it by Governor McLeod last fall.

Attorney General Daniel left quickly after the report was read and Rogers had returned to Columbia earlier in the day. Nollie Robinson, sheriff of Aiken county who made public denials that he was implicated in the affair as published by affidavits of inmates in the jail the night of the lynching, said "I say just as I said from the first that 'the righteous will prevail.'" Asked for a further declaration, he said he would not depart from his lifelong custom of not giving statements to the press.

Thanking the jurors in a short statement, Judge J. Henry Johnson who had urged them to action said:

"I regret exceedingly, and I believe every lover of South Carolina will regret exceedingly, that you have been unable to present any citizen or citizens for indictment in this case. I shall not assume that your failure to act is through any ulterior motive. I prefer to believe, rather, that the state has not presented to you such evidence as would warrant indictments. Every sound-thinking man realizes that you cannot bring an indictment without the proper evidence."

The state at 10.25 o'clock this morning completed its case in the grand jury investigation. At that hour Attorney General John M. Daniel left the grand jury room and stated that his case was completed.

The grand jurors then left the court house to inspect the jail, from which the mob took the three Lowmans on the morning of October 8, last, and from the pail to the lonely spot in the woods near Aiken to examine the spot where the three prisoners were shot to death.

One witness was heard by the grand jury today, H. P. Dykes, well known business man of Aiken. He was in the grand jury room ten minutes.

The grand jury sent for Solicitor B. D. Carter and he and Attorney Gen. Daniel were in the room about fifteen minutes. Mr. Daniel left and stated as he came out that the state's case was completed. No more witnesses were sworn for the state.

The grand jurors left the court house and went to the jail gate, the gate at which the mob had first appeared and on which it left battered indications of its visit. The jurors then went inside the jail, and though no newspaper men were allowed to go with them, it is intimated they inspected the cells where the Lowmans and other prisoners had been confined.

The visit to the pail lasted thirty minutes before the jurors reutrned to the court house.

As has been the policy since the investigation started Wednesday absolute secrecy was maintained.

'LYNCH LAW' IS UPHELD IN AIKEN, S. C.

Grand Jury Fails to Indict Slayers

Defendr

Aiken, S. C., Feb. 4.—Lynch law and violence were upheld for the state of South Carolina and the South here last Friday when the foreman of the grand jury investigating the evidence surrounding the cowardly lynching of Clarence, Demon and Bertha Lowman, returned a verdict that they did not find sufficient evidence to warrant indictments for the unknown lynchers who brutally killed three members of our Race last October near here.

The announcement of the verdict was received by the whites of the town with smiles, as it was known all along that the men on the jury would uphold the savagery of the South at all costs, regardless of the plea of the governor and the judge that the state clear its name.

Governor John G. Richards, successor to Governor Thomas, announced shortly after assuming office that the state has more than strong evidence that the three victims were shot down while in the custody of the law, and that the names of those that helped in the brutal killing were also known, but that the state was powerless to act or to try anyone unless the grand jury first indict and present for trial those who were guilty of the crime.

Fearing mob violence, members of our group who were to act as state witnesses were returned to the state penitentiary shortly after the lynchings last year. These six prisoners were brought back for the jury hearings under war conditions. A moving fort of automobiles loaded with state officers accompanied the prisoners from the penitentiary.

Lowman Lynchers to Go Unpunished

Amsterdam News

"WE DO NOT FIND that sufficient evidence has come before us to warrant us to ask for indictments."

WITH THESE WORDS the Aiken County Grand Jury concluded its official investigation of the lynching of Demon, Bertha and Clarence Lowman last October 8. This jury had been instructed by the Judge that no more than "a probable case, a prima facie case," was needed for them to bring an indictment. Yet, to their minds the names of the lynchers and the part each played in the atrocities as submitted to ex-Governor Thomas G. McLeod by Walter White, of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, after a careful investigation on the spot; the additional investigation and expose made by a correspondent of the New York World; the evidence secured by Constable W. W. Rogers and additional evidence that was its for the asking, did not constitute "a probable case."

THIS LEADS to the query as to what constitutes a probable case in the minds of a South Carolina Grand Jury? There was an abundance of evidence—enough to hang a score and more colored people if the victims had been white and the lynchers colored. The murders were premeditated. There was no other provocation than that the lynchers feared that the three Lowmans would get the justice that had been denied them.

THE NEW YORK WORLD, a daily newspaper which professes to "fight for progress and reform," and is "never afraid to attack wrong," went to a great expense to expose the Aiken lynchings. At the same time The World is opposed to the passage of a Federal anti-lynching bill. Again, we ask The World what remedy would it suggest as a cure for lynching when a Grand Jury with evidence in its possession se-

Aiken Jury Fails to Indict Lynchers.
AIKEN, S. C., Jan. 28 (A.P.)—The Aiken County Grand Jury investigating the lynching of the three Lowman negroes reported late today that it did not find sufficient evidence had been presented to it to warrant any indictments.

page..

ANOTHER great New York daily newspaper—The Times—in its news columns, dismisses the Aiken atrocities in the following words, which appeared the editors of The Times the lynch- at the bottom of the column on the last ings, not the injustice done, nor the cured by its own correspondent re- fuses to act? THIS LEADS us to conclude that to

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Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

disgraceful action of the Grand Jury, constitute "all the news that's fit to print."

N. Y. WORLD
JAN 26 1927

PUNISH LYNCHERS, GOVERNOR INSISTS

South Carolina Executive Says Murderers of Lowmans Must Pay Penalty

Special Despatch to The World

COLUMBIA, S. C., Jan. 25.—Gov. John G. Richards's first official statement regarding the lynchings of three Lowman Negroes near Aiken last October was published to-day by Columbia newspapers. In it he indicates his hope that the men who murdered the Lowmans will be brought to justice and announced that he has requested Attorney General Daniel and Solicitor Carter "to lay all other matters aside and give all necessary attention to the task of clearing the name of our State, to the end that those guilty may be tried in our courts and a true verdict rendered according to the evidence."

(The World sent a staff correspondent to South Carolina to investigate the lynchings and the failure of county and State authorities to take steps looking toward punishment. Former Gov. Thomas G. McLeod had detectives at work and unearthed a mass of evidence which it was impossible to present promptly to the Grand Jury owing to a peculiarity of the State law. Apparently Gov. Richards, who until now has refused to discuss the lynchings, intends to push the investigation.)

"Three persons have been shot down while in the custody of the law," says Gov. Richards, "and there are those who are guilty of the murders and yet no one has been punished or even arrested. Now the State has strong evidence but is powerless to actually try any one unless the Aiken Grand Jury first presents for trial those who are connected with this terrible affair.

"I am deeply interested in the outcome of the State's efforts to bring to justice those who participated in the murder of the Lowmans."

Detective W. W. Rogers will leave Columbia Wednesday morning for Aiken, taking with him the prisoners who were in the jail at Aiken when the Lowmans were removed. From all of them affidavits were obtained by Rogers implicating various Aiken County residents and officials in the lynching.

The testimony of these prisoners will be used in presenting the case to the Grand Jury, probably beginning Wednesday.

LYNCH CONSTABLE OUT

Columbia, S. C., Jan. 3, 1927.—J. P. Hart, Governor's Constable, who has been named in affidavits by Aiken Jail prisoners as one of those who took part in the lynching of the three Lowmans, has been refused reappointment by Governor Thomas G. McLeod.

"For good and sufficient reasons," is the only explanation given by the Governor of his failure to reappoint Hart along with eleven other constables. The appointments were made as of January 1 and to run for the few days remaining of Governor McLeod's term in office.

From the title Lucy Mooney, the little fourteen-year-old runaway mother of Horsecreek Valley, first named Hart as one of those who entered the jail to take the Lowmans to their death until three days ago, Governor McLeod had given no public indication of lack of faith in Hart. The Governor even assigned him to investigate details of the crime.

Hart had been in the vicinity of Aiken the week the Lowmans were shot down, as he explained, "on a liquor case." He consistently has denied participation in the lynchings and after the Mooney girl's affidavit was published, made public a statement giving as an alibi that he was at his home a few miles away. Previously he had told reporters he spent the night of the lynchings in a hotel in Aiken.

Aiken Grand Jury Meets Jan. 24 To Indict Mob

NEW YORK, JAN. 14.—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People is in close touch with the situation in South Carolina relative to prosecution of the lynchers of the three Lowmans, Bertha, Clarence and Demon on the morning of October 8 last.

The regular session of the Aiken County Court and Grand Jury opens on January 24, and the N. A. A. C. P. is receiving regular and detailed reports up to the minute.

The pressure brought by the N. A. A. C. P., which protested to President Coolidge against rumored intention to appoint Governor Thomas G. McLeod a member of the Federal Trade Commission brought a defense of his actions from Governor McLeod in his farewell message to the South Carolina Legislature.

In his message Governor McLeod contended that he had zealously endeavored to ascertain the guilty parties and bring them to justice," and that although favoring a special term of the Grand Jury he had not been able to call it before leaving office on January 18, because the law provided such special term must be called by the Attorney General and Solicitor who in this case did not approve it.

In his message Gov. McLeod advocated that the penalty against Counties in which a lynching occurs be substantially increased and the proof of participation in a mob debar a man from citizenship. It is reported on good authority that the incoming Governor, Richards, will not reappoint State Detective W. W. Rogers, who had been in charge of the Aiken investigation.

S. C. JURY FAILS TO INDICT LYNCHERS

Since a South Carolina grand jury has failed to indict anyone in connection with the lynching of three Negroes at Aiken, one of whom was a woman, we wonder what are the opposers of a federal anti-lynch-law saying now. Are they still hallooing "State Rights" while lynching is steadily on the increase in the United States?

The South Carolina lynching is unparalleled in the history of mob murder in the United States. The sheriff and the other minor law enforcement officers are accused of being parties to the crime. Witnesses swore that the sheriff actually opened the outer door, and led the mob to the cell of the woman that was lynched. Eye witnesses testified that they saw other well known persons in the mob. The governor of the State, realizing the shame and disgrace that had come upon the State and Nation as a result of the lynching, urged the grand jury to indict those who were guilty, without fear or favor. The press of the State condemned mob violence in no mistakable terms. The press of the country was no less strong in denouncing and calling upon the officials of the State to do their duty in bringing the guilty persons to justice. The ministers of the State and the interracial organizations throughout the country were no less interested in the outcome of the case. All of which had no effect upon the kind of people who composed the grand jury in South Carolina who heard the evidence in the case of a triple lynching, and failed to indict anyone. This is conclusive evidence that the State is either powerless to punish those who thus take the law into their own hands or that it is careless and indifferent in such cases.

The South Carolina grand jury action ought to stir the nation as never before. Every National Officer, the President and Congress of the United States included, ought to be ready to act. It is their duty to act. Will they have courage to act?

Women Lynchers of Palmetto State Vindicated By Grand Jury Which Outrage Justice

Thirteen Eye-witnesses Identify Mob Members and Incriminate Sheriff, but Jury Refuses to Indict Own Kin and Fellow Klansmen.

AIKEN, S. C., February 2.—The lynching of Demon, Bertha and Clarence Lowman, officially took its place Friday, among the bestial mob outrages of South Carolina, when the Aiken County Grand Jury reported: "We do not find sufficient evidence has come before us to warrant us to ask for indictments." In short, the jury refused to indict their own kin and fellow klansmen.

In two days, the Grand Jury heard thirteen witnesses, including seven persons who were prisoners

in the County jail at the time the outrage was committed. These prisoners named several persons whom they recognized as being in the lynching party. The State detective, W. W. Rogers, testified for over an hour, naming almost every person in the community who had taken an active part in the lynching. This list was obtained despite the hostile attitude of the townspeople.

Acquittal No Surprise

The decision reached by the Grand Jury was no surprise to the citizens of Aiken, although many gestures had been made to indicate that indictments would be returned. In his instructions to the jury, Judge Johnson stated: "we do positively condemn lynching, mob violence or anything else that would reflect on the state." In receiving the report he said, "I regret exceedingly and I believe every lover of South Carolina will regret that you have been unable to present any citizen or citizens for indictment of this case. I shall not assume that your failure to act is through any ulterior motive. I prefer to believe rather that the State has not presented to you such evidence as would warrant in dictment."

Governor Promised Aid

Governor John G. Richards, who succeeded Governor McRae, refused to make any statements on the outcome of the famous trial. When he took office, among his first acts, was the appointment of a special Grand Jury to seek indictments of the murderer. B. D. Carter, State prosecuting attorney was ordered to continue the investigation of the case and to expedite matters as far as possible. Attorney General Danie, who presented the evidence, with instructions from the Governor to see that the guilty were brought to justice, made no statement following the release of those charged. The new Governor had previously asserted "that the case" was one of the most important matters inherited by my administration, and that he was 'deeply concerned in the outcome of the State's efforts to bring to justice those who participated in the murder of the Lowmans."

South Carolina's leading papers joined in the demand for the prosecution of the guilty persons.

Members of Jury Suspects

The Grand Jury which failed to indict any of those charged with the Lowman's murder, was composed of eighteen persons, six of whom had been held over from the previous juries which failed to indict the guilty persons. Two of them were alleged to have been members of the lynching party, according to evidence gathered by an investigator and turned over to Governor McRae. The former juries reported inability to reach definite results and were discharged by their own request. Additional names were mentioned, giving the law sufficient grounds to secure convictions. Some were the most prominent citizens of Aiken and were said to have been closely related to former Governor McRae. The publicity given this triple lynching brought much undesirable comment and greatly irritated the people of Aiken who pretended anxious to have those guilty of crime, punished.

Many connected with the crime are alleged members of the Ku Klux Klan, although on the night of the lynching, the mob was undisguised, though carefully drilled in its work. The plan, as conceived and executed, was similar to others in which Klansmen participated and because of this, public opinion has come to believe that the Klan had an active part in it. It is known that the Klan regards South Carolina, especially Aiken, as one of its greatest strongholds, next to Georgia and Texas. Men who conducted the investigation have been repeatedly advised and warned that their lives were in danger and on more than one occasion have received threatening notes from the Ku Klux Klan.

President Urged to Act

Immediately upon failure of the Grand Jury to indict the persons charged with the lynchings, the National Association for Advancement of Colored People, has sent a letter to President Coolidge, urging the passage of a Federal law prohibiting lynching and making it punishable by a heavy fine and imprisonment. Governor Richards has been further urged to continue the case against those charged with the murder and order their re-arrest.

South Carolina Grand Jury Failed To Return Indictments Of Aiken County Lynchers Despite Eye-Witness Evidence

Ignored Judge Johnson's Fervent Plea That Members Of Mob Be Brought To Justice, For 'Wilful, Cowardly Murder'

Aiken, S.C.—Despite pronouncements by Governor John G. Richards and Judge J. Henry Johnson, presiding over the Court of General Sessions of Aiken County, S. C., calling upon the Aiken County grand jurors to take action in the investigation of the lynchings of the three Lowmans—one woman and two men—last October, the grand jury, on Friday afternoon, January 8, made a report, as follows:

"WE DO NOT FIND THAT SUFFICIENT EVIDENCE HAS COME BEFORE US TO WARRANT US TO ASK FOR INDICTMENTS."

Attorney John M. Daniel under instruction from the Governor, presented the evidence to the grand jury, assisted by County Solicitor Berte D. Carter which had been gathered by State Detective W. W. Rogers. Thirteen witnesses were heard by the grand jury, including seven persons who were in prison in the Aiken County jail on October 8, and were eye witnesses of many of the lynching incidents.

Had Named Lynchers

These witnesses previously had named individuals they had recognized among the lynhers. State Detective Rogers, in the course of an hour and a half told of having obtained the name of almost every person suspected of having taken part in the lynchings despite intense local objection to prosecution of the guilty participants.

When the grand jury was sworn in, Judge Johnson had told them, referring to the Lowman lynchings:

"The eyes of South Carolina are upon Aiken county today, and I might say the eyes of America are upon you. I don't know who the parties were, and I have no idea as to their identity, but I will say that a little band of wilful men have besmirched the good name of Aiken county and of South Carolina. I do say that a lynching is deliberate, wilful and cowardly murder, than which crime there can be no greater. Any lynching is a cowardly murder but the lynching of a woman is the lowest form of murder that I have yet heard of.

"Wilful, Cowardly Murder."

"God knows for your own sake and for the sake of the citizenship you represent in Aiken county and in South Carolina, you ought to be up and doing, and use every effort to bring to justice those men, because as I have said, regardless of who they were it was wilful, deliberate and a cowardly murder of the lowest kind known to man. You cannot say it was done in sudden heat and passion. It is murder.

"The time for words has past, and the time for action is at hand. Say to Aiken county, to South Carolina, and to America now that you are going to bring them to justice or that you don't propose to do it. Take your stand ultimately and definitely, one way or the other. God help Aiken county and South Carolina if you are going to do anything."

When the grand jury findings were made pubic, Governor Richards, who inherited the cases from the administration of his predecessor, former Governor McRae, who refused to call a special grand jury to sift the evidence, refused to make a statement, and his example in this particular was followed by Attorney General Daniel.

An "Unsolved" Crime.

But Judge Johnson, to whom the report was made, expressed his regret. He had told the grand jury that no more than a "probable case, a prima facie case," was needed to bring an indictment and when they said that "sufficient evidence has not come before us to warrant us to ask for indictments," the Judge expressed himself as follows:

"I regret exceedinglyan d I believe every lover of South Carolina will regret that you have been unable to present any citizen or citizens for indictment of this case. I shall not assume that your failure to act is through any ulterior motive. I prefer to believe rather that the State has not presented to you such evidence as would warrant indictement."

And so the lynching of Bertha Demon and Clarence Lowman takes its place officially on the list of South Carolina's "unsolved" crimes.

Lynchings-1927

Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

South Carolina.

1 2459

Freedom for Lynchers

For the third time the Grand Jury of Aiken, S. C., has failed to indict the members of a mob which lynched a colored woman and two colored men last October, in spite of the unimpeachable evidence on hand. There is no question but that the state of South Carolina is helpless in trying to punish these murderers who are permitted to enjoy the same freedom and liberty as that of the decent, law-abiding element of that community.

Does it ever occur to the members of that so-called Grand Jury that in countenancing these the basest of criminals they are likewise jeopardizing the safety and sanctity of their own home and family life? or are they too grossly ignorant to comprehend the moral code governing crime and retribution. Nevertheless, it is a fact that immunity from punishment for such a crime is not only an encouragement but an urge to other and similar crimes; and criminality knows no racial bounds. In virtue of this fact every respectable, law-abiding American should bestir himself in interest of a federal law that would tend to curb this bastardly crime which finds tolerance only in our own civilization.

The Aiken lynching has demonstrated, beyond a doubt, the inability of the states to deal with the situation. This should be the dominant issue at this time; the others are secondary in comparison.

NO BILLS RETURNED IN LYNCHING PROBE

South Carolina Grand Jury Fails to Find Sufficient Evidence For Indictment

AIKEN, S. C., Jan. 28.—(AP)—The Aiken county grand jury investigating the lynching of the three Lowman negroes reported late today that it did not find that sufficient evidence had been presented to warrant any indictments.

"We do not find that sufficient evidence has come before us to warrant us to ask for indictments," the report of the jury said, as read to the court at 5 p. m.

The report was brief, and stated that the jurors realized that a great deal of publicity had been given to the crime, and expressed the hope that an equal amount of publicity would be given to the statement that "we do positively condemn lynching, mob violence or anything else that would reflect on the state."

LYNCHING CALLED COWARDLY CRIME

"Time for Words Is Past —This Is Time for Action," South Carolina Judge Declares.

Aiken, S. C., January 24.—(AP)—Charged by Judge J. Henry Johnson with the necessity of bringing to justice members of the band who took Bertha, Demon and Clarence Lowman, Aiken negroes, from the county jail and shot them to death last October, the January grand jury was organized today with the lynching case on its calendar. A regular and special term of the jury sitting last fall considered the matter, but could reach no conclusion and asked to be excused.

Devoting a few minutes of his time to the Lowman lynching, Judge Johnson denounced it as "deliberate, willful, cowardly murder," and told the jurors "God help Aiken county and South Carolina if you fail to do something."

Solicitor Berte D. Carter declined to say when he expected to lay before the body testimony in the lynching case gathered by W. W. Rogers, of Columbia, state constable, who has been investigating the affair. Neither Detective Rogers nor Attorney General John M. Daniel, who is leading the case for the state, was present today.

J. Percy Hart, of Edgefield, former state constable, who denied to Governor McLeod last fall allegations made by prisoners in the jail that he was implicated with the band, was present as a witness in liquor cases, while Sheriff Nollie Robinson, who made similar denials, was about his usual duties.

Judge Johnson demanded of Aiken citizens if they ever condemned the Lowman lynching by mass meeting or otherwise, or "Have you given tacit consent by silence?"

The eyes of South Carolina, indeed of America, are on Aiken county today, he declared, "because its good name has been besmirched by a little band of willful, lawless men."

A great portion of the charge was devoted to Judge Johnson's conception of the reason for lawlessness in the country today. He declared petit jurors have not been doing their duty, that judges have contributed by failing to impose adequate sentences and that the delays of the law have been responsible.

Other factors included in those he mentioned were what he termed "the virtual breakdown of parental authority in the home."

Six members of the grand jury are holdovers from the body that last year investigated the lynchings three times and finally asked for a discharge, reporting no progress.

The negroes were removed from the Aiken jail in the early morning of October 8 and taken to a pine thicket two miles from town, where they were shot to death. They had been held in connection with the killing early in 1925 of Sheriff H. H. Howard. Demon Lowman had been granted a new trial the day before he was killed after having been convicted and sentenced to death at his first hearing. The trial of the others was ready to begin at the time they were lynched.

Lynch Law

(The New York World)

The grand jury of Aiken County, S. C., reports that it finds the evidence submitted concerning the lynch-law murder last October of Clarence, Demon and Bertha Lowman, Negroes, insufficient to warrant indictments. The prepetrators are well known in the community. The finding of the Aiken Grand Jury simply upholds lynch law in defiance of the known facts.

Gov. Richards is fortunately alive to the smirch upon the honor of the State left by the Aiken County mob. "There can be," he says, "no justification of lynch law, I care not what the offense." The lyncher "strikes at the very foundation of our civilization." Gov. Richards is not through with the case.

Aiken County's shame has attention of the whole country. Orderly and law-abiding citizens everywhere will hope that Gov. Richards' arm may prove long enough and strong enough to grasp and punish the murderers.

FAILURE TO INDICT AIKEN LYNCHERS BRINGS NEW DEMAND FOR FEDERAL LAW

Negro Investigator Declares Names of Lynchers Known In Aiken County

New York, Feb. 2.—Failure of the Aiken County, S. C., Grand Jury yesterday to indict members of the mob which last October 9th lynched a colored woman and two men of the Lowman family, after removing their victims from the Aiken County Jail, today brought a telegram from the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People to President Coolidge, asking him to urge passage of a federal anti-lynching law upon Congress; and a statement from Walter White, Assistant Secretary of the Advancement Association and first to investigate the Aiken lynchings, declaring that the names of the lynchers are known throughout Aiken County.

At the offices of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 69 Fifth Avenue, Mr. White said:

"The names of the Aiken County lynchers are known throughout the County. Last October, I went down there. I spoke to leading white citizens. The names were freely mentioned. I sent these names in a seven-page letter giving circumstantial facts, to former Governor Thomas G. McLeod of South Carolina. Sworn affidavits of people in the jail at the time the mob victims were removed, and of others, corroborated my charges that the sheriff and officers of the law connived in delivering the prisoners to the Aiken mob. What evidence was presented to the Grand Jury by the State we have of course no means of knowing. If the State wanted to present evidence warranting indictments, the evidence was at hand. The present Governor has this evidence. The State Detective, W. W. Rogers, had it. And presumably, the state attorneys also had it.

"The failure of the Aiken County Grand Jury to indict is nothing more nor less than a proclamation that S. Carolina, despite the appeals of its Governor, its leading editors, and the Presiding Judge, intends to stand by lynchers within its borders because the mob murderers are white and the victims black. To call such a State civilized is to travesty the word."

The telegram to President Coolidge signed by James Weldon Johnson, Secretary, and by Mary White Ovington, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, is as follows:

January 29, 1927.

"Hon. Calvin Coolidge,
President of the United States,
The White House,
Washington, D. C.

Yesterday the Grand Jury of Aiken County, South Carolina, refused to return indictments against the known mob murderers of a colored woman and two colored men, members of the Lowman family who were removed from the Aiken County Jail and done to death October eighth last. Mr. Walter White, Assistant Secretary of the National Associatio nfor the Advancement of Colored People, first investigated this lynching and placed in the hands of the Governor of S. Carolina evidence subsequently substantiated by sworn affidavits, identifying a number of the lynchers and stating that officers of the law had connived and participated in the mob murders. This evidence, correborated by the New York World's special orrespondent, led to official investigation by the State. The present Governor of South Carolina and leading newspapers have demanded indictments. The names of the lynchers are no secret in Aiken County. Whatever the evidence presented by the State, the action of the Aiken County Grand Jury serves notice upon the county and upon the civilized world that South Carolina is unwilling and unable to punish mob murderers in its midst, that law and orderly society in a State in the mob. The failure to indict is the more flagrant in that one of the mob's victims had been acquitted in court trial and the other two victims were clearly innocent and would without doubt also have been acquitted. No stronger argument could be presented to the people of the United States for federal intervention to stramp out lynching, the Shame of America. We therefore again solemnly urge upon you as spokesman for the Nation and leader of its public opinion, that you make public utterance upon this disgraceful situation; and that you call upon the Congress of the United States to enact a federal anti-lynching law.

"JAMES WELDON JOHNSON,
Secretary,
MARY WHITE OVINGTON,
Chairman, Board of Directors,
National Association for the

NAUGHT TO BE DONE ABOUT LYNCHING OF THREE LOWMANS

Amsterdam News
2-2-27

Aiken County Grand Jury Finds That It Hasn't "Sufficient" Evidence to Indict, Though Names of All Participants Were Given It

(Preston News Service.)

AIKEN, S. C., Jan. 31.—The Aiken County Grand Jury investigation into the lynching last October of the three Lowmans reported late Friday that it did not find "sufficient" evidence had been submitted to it to warrant any indictments.

The Grand Jury since Wednesday morning had heard thirteen witnesses, including seven persons who were prisoners in the jail Oct. 8, when the Lowmans were taken out and shot. They previously had named persons they recognized among the lynchers. W. W. Rogers, constable in charge of the investigation, testified for an hour and a half.

It is understood that the name of every person implicated in the affair had been given to the Grand Jury.

When the decision was made known, Judge J. Henry Johnson said:

"I regret exceedingly and I believe every lover of South Carolina will regret that you have been unable to present any citizen or citizens for indictment of this case. I shall not assume that your failure to act is through any ulterior motive. I prefer to believe rather that the State has not presented to you such evidence as would warrant indictment."

The Grand Jury's action was anticipated long ago and the boast made that nothing would be done about the lynchings.

In his charge to the Grand Jury, Judge Johnson called the lynchings "deliberate, wilful, cowardly murder," and continued: "The time for words is past. It is time for action. Say you propose to bring them to justice or say you don't propose to do anything. And God help Aiken County and South Carolina if you fail to do something."

S. C. GOVESNOR URGES PENALTY FOR LYNCHERS

McLeod Advocates Disqualifying Guilty Persons From Citizenship

SAYS OFFICIALS BE FORCED TO TAKE OATH

Program

Evidence In Hands of State Officers Who Are Pushing Investigation

Columbia, S. C.—Governor McLeod scored lynching and advocated a law disqualifying any person convicted of complicity in a lynching from citizenship, in his farewell message to the South Carolina legislature Wednesday.

Revised

Reciting briefly the story of the lynching [illegible] Demon and Clarence Lowman, the governor defended his record in connection with the incident and urged a heavier penalty than the one now fixed by law upon any county in which a person [illegible] by a mob.

1-22-27 Mail

Disqualify Guilty

Besides the increased penalty he advocated a law disqualifying any person convicted of complicity in a lynching from citizenship, and a requirement that public officials be forced to subscribe to an oath before taking office to the effect that they had not bee nconcerned in any way with any mob action.

"Notwithstanding misrepresentations to the contrary, which it is against the best interests of public policy to discuss here, I have zealously endeavored to ascertain the guilty parties and bring them to justice," the chief executive asserted.

Investigation Pushed

Adding that Attorney General John M. Daniel and Solicitor Bertie D. Carter were actively in charge of the legal conduct of the case, he said:

"Evidence has been obtained and placed in the hands of these representatives of the State, and the investigation is being vigorously carried on at this time. I earnestly hope that law-abiding citizens will back up the prosecution; that the jurors will have the courage to do their duty; that the perpetrators of this horrible crime may be brought to the bar of justice and dealt with as they deserve."

N. Y. WORLD
JAN 29 1927

REFUSE TO INDICT LOWMAN LYNCHERS

Aiken Grand Jury Fails to Find Sufficient Evidence to Warrant Action

Special Despatch to The World

AIKEN, S. C., Jan. 28.—The lynching of Demon, Bertha and Clarence Lowman, Negroes, officially took its place to-day among South Carolina's "unsolved" crimes. The Aiken County Grand Jury reported this afternoon:

"We do not find that sufficient evidence has come before us to warrant us to ask for indictments."

The people of Aiken were not surprised.

Thus ends the official investigation which began after a staff correspondent of The World focused attention on the crime.

The Grand Jury since Wednesday morning had heard thirteen witnesses, including seven persons who were prisoners in the jail Oct. 8, when the Lowmans were taken out and shot. They previously had named persons they recognized among the lynchers. W. W. Rogers, constable in charge of the investigation, testified for an hour and a half. He had obtained the name of almost every person in the community suspected of having taken part, despite considerable local hostility to prosecution.

The eighteen Grand Jurors, who had been carefully instructed by Judge Johnson that no more than a "probable case, a prima facie case" was needed for them to bring an indictment, included in their report the statement that since a great deal of publicity had been given the crime they hoped equal publicity would be given to the sentiment that "we do positively condemn lynching, mob violence or anything else that would reflect on the State."

In receiving the report, Judge Johnson said:

"I regret exceedingly and I believe every lover of South Carolina will regret that you have been unable to present any citizen or citizens for indictment of this case. I shall not assume that your failure to act is through any ulterior motive. I prefer to believe rather that the State has not presented to you such evidence as would warrant indictment."

Gov. John G. Richards, who inherited the case from former Gov. McRae after the latter had decided not to call a special Grand Jury, refused to make any statement to-night. Attorney General Daniel, who presented the evidence with instructions from the Governor to see that the guilty were brought to trial, also refrained from making any comment.

Official Investigation Followed That of The World

Demon, Clarence and Bertha Lowman were taken from the Aiken County Jail and shot last October after one had been ordered freed and the others had been granted a new trial for murder. There was virtually no official investigation until a staff correspondent of The World brought to light the story of Mrs. Lucy Mooney and others who were in the jail that officers of law, including the Sheriff and a Governor's constable, had helped the lynchers take the prisoners from their cells.

NEW YORK TIMES
JAN 29 1927

Aiken Jury Fails to Indict Lynchers.

AIKEN, S. C., Jan. 28 (AP).—The Aiken County Grand Jury investigating the lynching of the three Lowman negroes reported late today that it did not find sufficient evidence had been presented to it to warrant any indictments.

NEW YORK
EVE. WORLD
JAN 28 1927

SLEUTH TESTIFIES IN LYNCHING QUIZ

State Detective 12th Witness at S. C. Hearing

AIKEN, S. C., Jan. 28 (A. P.)—W. W. Rogers, State detective assigned by former Gov. McLeod to investigate the lynching of three Negroes by an Aiken mob last October, yesterday testified before the Grand Jury which is conducting an inquiry into the killings. He was the twelfth witness.

Bertha, Demon and Clarence Lowman, the Negroes awaiting trial on the charge of murdering a county officer, were taken out of jail by a mob and shot to death on the town's outskirts.

The inquiry will continue to-day.

N. Y. WORLD
JAN 28 1927

UP TO THE AIKEN GRAND JURY

The Aiken Grand Jury has begun its hearings to find indictments for the Aiken lynchings. Gov. Richards has come out with a strong denunciation of the "murderers," and has written Judge Johnson urging him to stress in his charge the duty of Grand Jurors. The Governor, the judge and Foreman Boylston know that there is ample evidence not only to indict but to convict some of the mob participants. This evidence was not hard to obtain. Some members of the mob boasted of their share; inmates of the jail saw what went on and have made affidavits. Gov. Richards declares the State is eager to use this evidence "but is powerless actually to try any one unless the Aiken Grand Jury" acts. There are eighteen members of the Grand Jury and a few can block action. The next few days will see whether Aiken County wishes the law to be enforced.

Lynchings - 1927
Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

Tennessee.

2447

2447

MAURY COUNTY OFFICER DEFEATED AT POLLS DAY FOLLOWING LYNCHING

WELL-KNOWN PROFESSIONAL MEN INVOLVED IN TRAGEDY AT CAPITAL CITY.

Columbia, Tenn., Nov. 12.—Leading citivens of this county exhibited their distaste for the negligence of Sheriff Luther C. Wiley, by going to the polls today and voting him out of office. The election was the regular primary for selection of a sheriff and several other county officers. Coming as it did at this time, hardly twenty-four hours after Sheriff Wiley stood supinely by and allowed a mob to lynch Henry Choate, an 18-year-old Negro youth, the little municipality was afforded an excellent opportunity to show its horror over such a disgraceful and inhuman affair.

Victim Failed to Identify

The negro youth was charged wtih having attacked a young white woman on a private road near the city in broad open daylight Thursday. Suspicion was readily directed at Choate because of a bad record which he is said to have held in the community. He was arrested and circumstances surrounding his action indicated his guilt, according to the officers, but the young white woman refused to positively identify the boy as her assailant. As news of the attack spread a mob was formed but the pleas of leading white citizens of the community, coupled with those from the mother of the young woman, served to halt the action of the mobbists until Friday night.

Sheriff's Attitude Encouraged Mob

The attitude which Sheriff Wiley exhibited throughout the entire situation served to encourage the mob rather than halt their efforts to kill the prisoner. Earlier in the day the mob had approached the jail in search of the prisoner, and the wife of the county's chief officer turned them back when she exhibited a determination to shoot if they should attempt to invade the jail.

The crowd about town was augmented with many Armistice day celebrants. Several leading organizations were conducting programs within a short distance of the courthouse, and speakers appearing on the programs were loud in their denunciation of the mob spirit that pervaded the community.

Assurance had been given by the sheriff that the prisoner would be protected at all odds, and many of the upstanding white citizens who expressed a desire to offer assistance in protecting the prisoner, the county's property, and uphold the law, left the jail after having been given such assurance by the sheriff. Such citizens had hardly left the scene before the mob renewed its attack. One of the sheriff's deputies delivered the keys into the hands of the mob leaders, giving as his reason that he did not desire to have the jail destroyed and the other prisoners freed.

The mob filed into the second story of the courthouse. Leading the accused Negro youth by a rope about his neck, and approaching the front window of the building they tossed his body through the window, the fall breaking the prisoner's neck.

Relatives of Choate were notified of the boy's death and after being given assurance that they would be protected from attack by the mob, the body was taken down and placed in charge of an undertaker for burial.

Fearful of Defeat

It was very plain that the sheriff was unwilling to demand respect for the law because of his candidacy for re-election at the time of the primary on Saturday. The mob, which was made up for the most part of hoodlums, could have been dispersed if the sheriff himself had manifested a determined attitude. Even when the crowd was threatening to destroy the jail, the chief law officer of the county and his corps of deputies stalked about among the mobbists as though they had gathered to witness a circus parade. Never for one time did he warn the mob that any effort at violence toward the prisoner would be met with armed resistence on the part of the officers of the law.

Coroner's Usual Report

A coroner's inquest was conducted over the body of Choate shortly after his death with the usual report, in instances of this kind, that the youth came to his death at the hands of "unknown parties." The minister who conducted the questioning of the Negro declared that he didn't recognize any of the participants in the lynching affair.

The ballot box, in which many voters of the county registered a vote against the sheriff who allowed the mob to operate without any resistance from him or his force of deputies, was stationed in the courthouse just under the window where a few hours before the body of the young Negro was dropped. The voters exhibited a determined attitude as they walked into the booth, and when the vote was counted at the close of the election, there was general rejoicing that the man who had allowed the fair name of Maury county to be blotted in such a terrible manner had been thrown from authority.

W. R. Haywood, county magistrate was nominated sheriff over Wiley and two other opponents. 'Squire Haywood has served as county magistrate for a number of years and has a record as an advocate of law enforcement.

NO INDICTMENT FOR LYNCHERS

COLUMBIA, Tenn., Dec. 8.—(Special to A. N. P.)—The lynching of Henry Choate was investigated here during this week and as was expected the members of the Maury County Grand Jury, which adjourned at two o'clock Tuesday afternoon were unable to return a true bill against the alleged lynchers.

Choate's lynching came as the climax of the Armistice Day Celebration and he was hanged from the balcony of the court house from which speakers had earlier in the day addressed the citizens on Americanism. He was accused of attacking a white girl, but she had not identified him when he was lynched.

Lynchings - 1927

Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

Texas.

2448

MEXICO INTERESTED IN MURDER INQUIRY

Arrest of Sheriff and Seven County Officers Assumes International Aspect

RAYMONDVILLE, TEXAS, Jan. 8.—(AP)—The case against Sheriff Raymond Teller and seven other Willacy county officers charged with implication in the deaths of five county prisoners slain near here last September assumed an international aspect today with the Mexican government actively interested in the prosecution.

Mexican officials contend that at least one of the prisoners killed was a citizen of the southern republic and charges filed against the officers yesterday were the result of activities of Manuel C. Gonzalez, San Antonio attorney appointed by the Mexican government as a special investigator.

County Attorney Roger F. Robinson declared today that the warrants were issued without his knowledge and said that so far as he knew there was no evidence to warrant holding the officers.

Teresa Nunez, widow of one of the prisoners slain, swore to the complaint.

In court today County Attorney Robinson asserted it had come to his attention that Mrs. Nunez had stated she did not know what she was signing when she affixed her signature to an affidavit and that she had no more information now than when she appeared before the recent county grand jury which investigated the case without returning indictments.

John A. Valenzuela, Mexican consul at San Antonio made it plain that Attorney Gonzalez is backed by the Mexican government.

An attachment for Gonzalez was issued in district court requiring his presence here Monday when habeas corpus proceedings brought in behalf of the sheriff and deputies will be heard.

Upon learning of the order for Gonzalez, Consul Valenzuela declared at San Antonio that either he or Alejandro P. Carillo, consul general of Mexico would come here to aid the attorney "should he be kept from finding the truth and convicting the men responsible for the killing of our citizens."

Bonds of $1,500 each were posted for all the defendants this afternoon and they were released pending the court hearing Monday. The prisoners killed last September were shot while in custody of a sheriff's force. The officers explained that the men had been taken from the jail into the country in an attempt to locate a cache of arms believed to have been used in the killing of two officers in the Mexican sections here. The officers declared they were ambushed and that the prisoners were killed in the resulting gun fight. None of the officers was wounded and none of the alleged ambushers captured.

BORDER KILLING LAID TO SHERIFF

Raymondville, Texas, January 7.—(AP)—Sheriff Raymond H. Teller, of Willacy county, and seven others were arrested here today and held on charges of slaying and being accessory to the slaying of Thomas Nunez, his two sons and two others near here September 9. The men were taken into custody by F. H. Compton, a special officer, and the charges were based on a sworn statement made by the wife of Nunez, who was a native of Mexico.

Those arrested with Sheriff Teller were Leon Gill, N. M. Ragland, Frank Cowsert, Roy Collins, Charlie Wroten, Frank Brandt and Arture Flores. Several of the defendants are now facing peonage charges in federal court at Corpus Christi in connection with the employment of cotton field laborers including Mexicans. As the district attorney was absent, none of the men could make bail.

Nunez, his two sons and two other men had been arrested in connection with the slaying of two Willacy county officers, who were shot here the night of September 6 in the Mexican quarter. A general roundup of Mexicans followed the slayings.

A sheriff's force took Nunez and the other four out into the country with the announced purpose of having the prisoners lead them to a cache of arms believed to have been used in the slaying of the officer.

On their return to Raymondville without the prisoners the sheriff's force reported they had been ambushed and that all five of the prisoners had been killed in the ensuing exchange of gun fire with the ambushers. None of the officers was wounded.

A county grand jury investigated the case and exonerated the officers.

The Mexican government demanded an investigation and at the request of Secretary of State Kellogg, Governor Miriam A. Ferguson sent two Texas rangers to conduct an inquiry. They reported that all of the prisoners killed had paid poll taxes and had voted as citizens of Texas.

The Mexican government had contended that at least one of the men killed was a Mexican citizen.

SHERIFF IS HELD AS AIDING MURDER OF FIVE MEXICANS

Raymondville, Texas, January 7.—(AP)—Sheriff Raymond H. Teller, of Willacy county, and three other officers were arrested late today in connection with the deaths of five Mexicans who were slain near here three months ago while in custody of county authorities. The sheriff was charged with "accessory to murder."

Some time ago the case was brought to the attention of the American state department by the Mexican government.

3 TEXAS LYNCHERS ON TRIAL

3 Whites Charged With Lynching 3 On Ranch Plead Not Guilty. Jury Is Impanelled

RICHMOND, Tex., May 13— The trial of three whites charged with murder in connection with the lynching of Scott Evans, Robert Brown and his wife Sydnia on a ranch 25 miles from here Nov. 10, last, was opened here Monday The jury was completed late Monday.

Raiders Lynch Three

The lynching grew out of the slaying of a friend of one of the three whites. which was blamed upon an associate of the victims. The cabin of the three was surrounded by the raiders, who called Evans out and riddled his body with bullets. They allowed Frazier Evans, aged man, to escape, and then fired hundred of shots into the building and set it on fire burning Brown and his wife to death, heedless of their pleas for mercy.

Reject Jurymen

The whites on trial, H. B. Jr., and John Crowder and Buster Roberts, have been out on $5000 bonds since an examining trial held at Richmond last fall. The courtroom was guarded carefully by many heavily armed men at the preliminary hearing for fear of the safety of colored persons who gave testimony.

When the last man selected of the panel of 12 had been made, the indictment was read to the defendants and each pleaded not guilty. Taking of testimony then began.

Most of the veniremen rejected were excused for fixed opinions.

The present trial is expected to be quite tense. The lynching, the state argues, was prompted by an overact in the shooting of Wallace Crowder, 20 years old.

ACQUIT TEX. LYNCHERS

LYNCHERS OF COLORED WOMAN AND TWO COLORED MEN FREED—JUDGE ORDERS TWO ACQUITTED — OTHER LYNCHER FREED BY JURY AFTER 12 HOURS—LYNCHING WAS ESPECIALLY BRUTAL

Richmond, Texas, May, 1927—A jury in Judge M. S. Mason's District Court last week acquitted three white men of a murder charge growing out of the lynching of Robert Brown, Scott Evans and his wife, Sallie, colored Americans, Nov. 10, last, on the Bassett-Blakely ranch near Katy.

Two of the defendants, John Crowder and Buster Roberts, were found not guilty Tuesday at noon by an instructed verdict from the court. The third defendant, H. B. Crowder, Jr., was not released, however, with the others. When the motion was made to dismiss the charges State's Attorney Bob Bassett would not agree to the motion in his case.

The trial was started Monday after over two score jurors had been dismissed for having fixed opinions. The hearing of Crowder's case began at 1 p. m., and the jury retired at 8.45 p. m. The verdict of acquittal was delivered 12 hours and 5 minutes later.

Lynchings-1927

Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

Virginia

2468

Officers Who Frustrated Lynching Punished By Defeat For Re-Election

Smithfield, Va., Nov. 9—Sheriff W. H. Chapman and Commonwealth's Attorney George F. Whitley, the two officers whose actions peacefully and without the shedding of a drop of blood or the injury or arrest of a single citizen, frustrated the attempt of a mob to lynch Shirley Winnegan, a colored man accused of assault and murder of a young white girl near here four weeks ago, were defeated for re-election in the voting here Tuesday, after having been named for the places in the August Democratic primary, presumably as punishment for having upheld the law. Both men have served in their respective offices for a number of years, having been regularly renominated in succeeding primaries. Mr. Whitley had no opposition in the last primary and Sheriff Chapman was named by a vote of 1631 to 137. In Virginia to be named in the Democratic primary is tantamount to election, the subsequent general election being more a matter of form.

Newly Elected Officers

The newly elected Commonwealth's Attorney is A. E. S. Stephens, young attorney of Smithfield, and W. Colgate Whitehead, sheriff. Their names did not appear on the ballot but were written in, this action having been determined by a citizens mass meeting a few days following the occurrence of the Winnegan affair. The vote was 490 for Chapman and 583 for Whitehead; 537 for Whitley and 554 for Stephens. Mr. Stephens announced when informed of the citizens mass meeting deciding upon writing his name in the ballot that he would not be a candidate for the office and would not serve if elected. He promptly reaffirmed this statement when notified of his election Tuesday night.

Outcome of Winnegan Case

The fight on Sheriff Chapman and Mr. Whitley was the direct outgrowth of the Winnegan case. On October 14, a young white girl was found brutally murdered after having been assaulted. Later Shirley Winnegan was arrested and charged with the offense. He was lodged in the Smithfield jail, but when mob violence threatened, the sheriff had him transferred to the Petersburg jail. Later, through joint action of the sheriff and commonwealth's attorney, the Petersburg authorities were notified that mob was en route to that city to take the prisoner. The Petersburg, mayor promptly had the prisoner transferred to the Richmond jail.

Mob Becomes Incensed

Defeated in its purpose, the mob became incensed, and in a day or so later an unsigned circular was distributed throughout the county calling for a citizens mass meeting to consider the case. More than 1200 citizens attended and immediately a war of political reprisal was declared upon the sheriff and commonwealth's attorney, whose past records were of the highest. The result was their defeat for election Tuesday, in spite of the cumbersome method that had to be resorted to to bring this about.

Another angle to the Winnegan case, which some believe had a bearing upon the defeat of these officers for re-election, was that the accused man had been adjudged insane by a lunacy commission some weeks prior to the perpetuation of the horrible crime, and ordered confined in the State Hospital for the insane at Petersburg. Upon the action of the sheriff, who exercised his own discretion in the matter, he later explained, the man was never committed to the asylum. But this cannot possibly explain the action against the commonwealth's attorney. The majority of opinion is that doing their sworn duty and averting a lynching is what brought about their defeat. In fact, the State press before the election branded the mass meeting incident an effort to punish brave officers for having performed their duty, and though practically every newspaper in Virginia urged the citizens of Isle of Wight to reconsider what was termed ill-advised action, the officers were sacrificed for upholding the law.

Lynchings-1927
Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

Virginia

2461

One Indicted In Lynching

Evidence Of Six Men Not Made Public

WYTHEVILLE, Va., Jan. 20 (By A. N. P.)—The special grand jury which was impaneled to investigate the killing of Raymond Bird, who August 15 was taken from jail and lynched, returned an indictment against Floyd Willard, a young white farmer. Willard is the only one named in the indictment, which was returned on the evidence of six men who were examined, but the evidence has not been made public.

ROANOKE, VA.
Times
JAN 11 1927

THE LYNCHING INQUIRY WILL BE RESUMED TODAY

Significance of Call By Judge Sutherland is Not Made Clear

GAME JURORS ASKED TO REOPEN PROBE

Roanoke Attorney is on the Scene to Assist State's Counsel

Wytheville, Jan. 10 (Special)—The investigation of the lynching of Raymond Bird, negro, here on August 15 tomorrow will be resumed by a special grand jury in the Wythe county circuit court, which convened today. Circuit Judge Horace Sutherland late today summoned a new grand jury, consisting of the same men who began the inquiry soon after the affair, to meet at the courthouse here tomorrow morning at 10 o'clock and continue work on the case.

The earlier grand jury, after three days of investigation, adjourned on September 4 without making a report and automatically went out of existence with the beginning of the October term of court. Men summoned for service tomorrow, who were also members of the original investigating body, are: O. M. Johnson, C. M. Grey, C. W. Baumgardner, D. S. Blair, S. E. Crockett and W. G. Shores. All are residents of Wytheville or immediate vicinity.

Witnesses Not Divulged

Names of any witnesses who may have been summoned for examination tomorrow were not available tonight. The authorities had little to say about the matter but the calling of the grand jury, almost five months after the lynching, was regarded as an indication either that new evidence has been unearthed or that they have exhausted all possible sources and are ready for the grand jury to take some final action.

Chitwood on Scene

Joseph H. Chitwood, Roanoke attorney, who was appointed by Governor Byrd to aid Commonwealth's Attorney H. M. Heuser in the investigation, was in Wytheville tonight. Leon M. Bazile,

VA. LYNCHING QUIZ RESUMED

Jury Takes Up Inquiry Into Lynching Of Byrd On August 15 Last

WYTHEVILLE, Va., Jan. 12.—Circuit Judge Horace Sutherland late Monday summoned a special grand jury to resume investigation of the lynching of Raymond Bird, who was removed from the Wythe county jail here August 15 shot and his body hung from a tree near the Saint Paul settlement in the western end of the county.

The grand jury, which is composed of the same men who started an inquiry into the affair soon after it occurred, met Tuesday morning at 10 o'clock. The earlier grand jury adjourned without making a report at the opening of the October term of court.

the body from a tree several miles away. Bird was charged with attacks on two young white women.

VIRGINIA TO PROBE LYNCHING OF NEGRO

Wytheville, Va., January 10.—(AP) Circuit Judge Horace Sutherland late today summoned a special grand jury to resume investigation of the lynching of [illegible], negro, who was removed from the Wythe county jail here on August 15, shot and his body hung from a tree near the St. Paul settlement in the western end of the county.

The grand jury, which is composed of the same men who started an inquiry into the affair soon after it occurred, will meet Tuesday at 10 o'clock. The earlier grand jury of which they were members adjourned without making a report and automatically went out of existence.

RICHMOND, VA.
News
JAN 12 1927

Wythe Grand Jury Is Probing Bird Lynching

Wytheville, Va., Jan. 12.—(Special to The News Leader.)—The special grand jury investigating the killing of Raymond Bird, negro, in the Wythe county jail on the night of Aug. 15, 1926, where he was confined, charged with attacking two young white women, and the taking of his body to the neighborhood in which the crimes were alleged to have been committed and hanging the body to a tree, continued in session in the Wythe circuit court at Wytheville this morning. Three additional witnesses, Charlie Higgins, Harvey Higgins and Wayne Higgins, living in Grayson county, Va., were to appear before the grand jury today. They were summoned and brought to Wytheville by the sheriff of Wythe county.

a member of a mob that killed Raymond Bird.

Bird was shot to death by a mob of masked men while confined in a cell in the Wythe County jail in August, 1926. He was being held on a charge of criminally assaulting two young white women. After being shot as he lay asleep upon a cot his body was taken some distance from Wytheville and hanged to a tree.

Following the lynching the press of the State was vigorous in its demand that the lynchers be caught and punished. Governor Byrd named Joseph H. Chitwood as special prosecutor in the case. Several men later were arrested and charged with being members of the mob, but the grand jury returned not true bills against all of them except Willard, a young farmer.

LYNCHING INDICTMENT AGAINST N. C. FARMER

WYTHEVILLE, Va., Jan. 19.—The investigation of the lynching of Raymond Bird in the jail here August 15, which was resumed Tuesday of last week [illegible] the same week with the indictment of Floyd Willard, young farmer. About fifty whites were said to have taken part in the lynching.

JAILED AS LYNCHER

BAIL MAN NAMED IN WYTHEVILLE LYNCHING ON $15,000.00 BOND

Wytheville, Va., Jan. 16, 1927:—Floyd Willard, Wythe county farmer indicted by a special grand jury, charged with being implicated in the killing of Raymond Bird, Colored, last August, was released today on a bond of $15,000. Eight farmers of the western section of the county went on the bond.

While the Commonwealth opposed granting bond, Willard's attorney made motion for bail and insisted on an immediate trial. The court continued the case until the first day of the April term.

Willard is charged with being a member of the party which shot Bird in the Wythe county jail then strung

ALLEGED LYNCHER FREED

WYTHEVILLE, Va.—Floyd Willard, who was charged with complicity in the lynching of Raymond Bird, in Wythe County last August, following an alleged attack on two daughters of a farmer, was found not guilty Tuesday.

TEN-MINUTE VERDICT

Special to the Journal and Guide

Wytheville, Va., July 20.—Following ten minute deliberation a jury in the Wythe County Circuit Court Tuesday night returned Floyd Willard not guilty of being

WILLARD ACQUITTED OF LYNCHING CHARGE

Wytheville, Va., July 19.—Floyd Willard, charged with having taken part in the lynching by a masked mob last August of Raymond Bird, Negro, was declared not guilty here tonight after the jury had deliberated in the courtroom only ten minutes.

VIRGINIA MOBBIST IS FREED IN TEN MINUTES

(Preston News Service).

WYTHEVILLE, Va., Aug. 1.—With only ten minutes' deliberation a jury in the Wythe county Circuit Court Tuesday night brought in a verdict of not guilty for Floyd Willard who was being tried on a charge of murder in connection with the lynching of Raymond Bird on the night of August 15, 1926.

Willard, who was 60 years old, was the only person against whom the investigators were able to obtain an indictment. Bird was shot to death by a band of masked men while confined in a jail cell here awaiting trial. Bird is alleged to have assaulted two white women.

Witnesses for the state testified that Willard boasted of the crime and in times of drunken talkativeness would tell all the details of the lynching. Willard told the court he could neither deny or affirm the conversations he is alleged to have had with the state's witnesses about the lynching. But he testified that he was at home in bed when the lynching occurred and knew nothing of it until the next morning.

TIMES
ROANOKE, VA.
JUL 20 1927

WILLARD IS ACQUITTED OF LYNCHING CHARGE; JURY OUT TEN MINUTES

VERDICT RETURNED LATE LAST NIGHT

State Based Case on Evidenc of Five Grayson County Men

DEFENSE OFFERED ALIBI

Witnesses Declared Willard Told Them How Bird Was Killed

Wytheville, July 19. (Special).—Floyd Willard, charged with having taken part in the lynching by a masked mob August 14, 1926, of Raymond Byrd, negro held in Wythe County jail on an assault charge, was declared not guilty here tonight after the jury had remained out of the courtroom ten minutes. The night session of the court, which began at 7:30 o'clock, was decided on after evidence had been completed late in the afternoon. One hour was taken for the court to pass on instructions offerd.

Chitwood Opens.

The opening argument for the commonwealth was made by Joseph H. Chitwood. The defense counsel, A. Neal Williams, followed with a speech of about an hour's length. The case was closed by the Wythe County prosecuting attorney, H. M. Heuser, at 10:30 o'clock tonight and the jury sent out to decide the verdict.

Eight witnesses were introduced during the day by the commonwealth, among them the physician who performed the autoposy on the body of Bird. The negro was shot but once, the bullet entering just above the heart and penetrating the left lung. Thirteen witnesses were put on the stand by the defendant.

Was At Home In Bed.

The defendant emphatically denied having been in the mob, and stated that at the time he was at home in bed, and knew nothing of the affair beyond what was common knowledge in the neighborhood. He was corroborated by his wife, his daughter Mrs. ...lla, and two sons, Earl and Geo... Five Wytheville citizens testified to the good character of Willard and his standing in the community.

The most damaging evidence ...ard that came out during the tr... he testimony of Wayne, Dean, ...nd Charles Higgins, and W. P. ... Grayson County residents. ...tated that in November while ...unting with the defendant, who, ...aid, was drinking at the time, ...old them how the negro Bird wa... killed, placed on the running board of ... car and taken out of town and hung. J. C. Richardson, Wythe County ...iller, on the stand denied recognition ... any of the masked and fantastically ...essed mob that held him at the point ... a Winchester while they entered the ...ail, shot the negro, and dragged the ...ody out into the jail yard at the end ... the rope. Richardson said they cut ...e telephone wires at the jail, and ...ook his keys from him to enter the ...ructure.

Rapid Progress Made.

Wytheville, July 19 (Special).—...apid progress was made Tuesday ...orning in the trial of Floyd Willard, ...ythe county farmer, charged with ...ing a member of a masked mob ...hich killed Raymond Bird, negro, in ...e Wythe county jail in August of ...st year. Only twenty-three veniremen were examined. Of this number ...enty were found to be qualified and ...ee from exceptions. In addition to ...e usual questions asked veniremen in ... capital case, Hon. Joseph H. Chitwood, special prosecuting attorney ...ppointed by Governor Byrd, questioned closely most of the veniremen ... to whether or not they were members of any fraternity or organization ...hich attempted to regulate the conduct of the colored race or to punish ...olators of the law. None of the men ...ked these questions belonged to any ...ch fraternity or organization. The ...enty men who were finally accepted ...ere: E. H. Bralley, Edgar T. Williams, ... B. Anderson, George B. Simmerman, ... H. Austin, Edward P. Crockett, ...ames M. Catron, L. B. Etter, C. C. ...teffey, Frank C. Hudson, A. L. Porter, ... N. Phillippi, E. M. Lindamood, Frank ...atron, A. J. Clark, Floyd Blessing, ...homas Hager, Sidney W. Hedrick, W. ... Kegley and W. C. Arney. Of these ... H. Bralley, James M. Catron, Frank ... Hudson, A. L. Porter, I. N. Phill...pi, E. M. Lindamood, Frank Catron ...d Thomas Hager were stricken from ...e panel by either the commonwealth ...or the attorney for Willard, and Edgar T. Williams, C. B. Anderson, George B. Simmerman, R. H. Austin, Edward P. Crockett, L. B. Etter, C. C. Steffey, A. J. Clark, Floyd Blessing, Sidney W. Hedrick, W. G. Kegley and W. C. Arney were sworn as the jury for the trial.

Willard, by his attorney, A. Neal Williams, of Wytheville, waived formal arraignment and entered a plea of ...

guilty.

The work of securing a jury occupied less than one hour and a half. The courtroom was only comfortably filled, not crowded, and no excitement was apparent.

Admitted Being in Mob.

The opening statement for the prosecution was made by H. H. Heuser, commonwealth's attorney for Wythe county, and was brief. He stated that the prosecution expected to prove that Willard had admitted being a member of the mob and had described how Bird was killed. A. Neal Williams, of Wytheville, who is defending Willard, in his opening statement for the defense, stated that if such statements were made, they were made by Willard, while intoxicated, and that he had no other knowledge of the crime than that possessed by numerous other people in the county, who had heard it discussed. Willard will prove that he was at home at the time the alleged crime was committed. Eight witnesses for the commonwealth were present this morning in court and fourteen for the defendant. After being sworn all of the witnesses were excluded from the court room. It is stated that the alleged incriminating statements made by Willard were made some weeks after the killing of Bird to five men who reside in Grayson county, and who were on a fox hunt in the neighborhood in which Willard lives.

Dr. L. W. Huddle, of Rural Retreat was the first witness called by the commonwealth and he stated that but one bullet wound was found in the body of Bird, and that the bullet entered his left breast about one and one-half inches abov his heart and passed through the lung. This wound in the opinion of the doctor was not necessarily fatal. His testimony was very brief.

Court adjourned at 1 o'clock for recess until 2 o'clock.

The Final Chapter Of The Raymond Bird Lynching

Occasioning no surprise, Virginia's first gesture toward bringing alleged lynchers to book has run its course with the end proving as vacuous as was the beginning. After ten minutes deliberation a jury in the Wythe County Circuit Court last week acquitted Floyd Willard, a white farmer, of the charge of being a member of the mob that, early one Sunday morning of August, 1926, lynched Raymond Bird while he was confined in a cell in the Wytheville jail. No particular criticism attaches to the verdict of the jury. It scarcely could have been otherwise. Between fifty and a hundred men are alleged to have taken part in the lynching. Following strong denunciation of this butchery by the State press and the demand by Governor Byrd that Wythe County officials clean up the affair to the credit of the good name of the State, several men were arrested and charged with having participated in the outlawry. A special grand jury, after several delays, found "sufficient" evidence to indict only one of those arrested. Nearly a year was allowed to elapse before the legal machinery of the county brought this lone accused to trial, and he was promptly acquitted. That the Wytheville stench is to remain in the nostrils of decent Virginians con... may be blamed wholly on the Floyd Willard trial jury. Those who were charged with the responsibility of cleaning up this affair in the beginning are to be held accountable.

The Bird lynching investigation and prosecution were conducted from the beginning to end with a sad lack of vigor. Only under pressure of the State press and the governor was the first move made. Every step thereafter taken was marked with laxity and indifference. The final chapter was expected to close just as it did—with the disgrace upon the State as glaring as it ever was.

Governor Byrd Scores Lynching Of Negro Slayer

"To set aside the law and lynch by mob violence, is a cowardly act and one which strikes a blow at the very foundations of orderly government, it is full time for Virginia to make an example of those committing the crime of lynching and to punish the guilty as other murderers are punished.

"If the lynching occurred on Virginia territory, every resource of the state will be extended to the local authorities to apprehend and punish the perpetrators of this outrage. If the act took place on the Kentucky side and Virginians participated, every aid will be extended to the Kentucky authorities.

"This crime should arouse the people of Virginia to the necessity of drastic punishment so that an example will be made of those who commit murder in mobs as well as those who commit murder as individuals.

"I am wiring the governor of Kentucky to extend my cooperation and also the local authorities requesting full details."

The Virginia executive said he had not been able to ascertain whether the negro had been lynched on the Virginia or the Kentucky side of the line, but that he was making every effort to determine where it occurred.

Lynchings-1927
Legislation Relating to.

Rock Hill
S. C. Herald
JAN 12 1927

2488

URGES TEETH TO PREVENT LYNCHING IN THIS STATE

Defends Action Relating to Recent Aiken Case

REPEATS PLEAS

Highway Patrol, 6-0-1 Amendment Among Subjects

By the Associated Press.

Columbia, S. C., Jan. 12—Governor McLeod recommended tightening up of the State's anti-lynching laws, amendment of the 6-0-1 school law to make attendance instead of enrollment the basis for state aid, organization of a constabulary for policing the highways, and state action to promote balanced farming in his farewell message to the South Carolina legislature today.

He repeated the recommendations he made in his annual address of 1926 with regard to taxation, advocating revaluation of real property for the purpose of equalization, and a continuance of the indirect taxes on non-Essentials.

Heavy Lynching Penalty

Reciting briefly the story of the lynching at Aiken of Bertha Demon and Clarence Lowman, the governor [illegible] in connection with the incident urged heavier penalty than [illegible] by law upon any county in which a person is put to death by a mob. Besides the increased penalty he advocated a law disqualifying any person convicted of complicity in a lynching from citizenship, and a requirement that public officials be forced to subscribe to an oath before taking office to the effect that they had not been concerned in any way with any mob action.

"Notwithstanding fisrepresentations to the contrary, which it is against the best interests of public policy to discuss here, I have zealously endeavored to ascertain the guilty parties and bring them to justice," the chief Attorney General John M. Daniel and Solicitor Berte D. Carter were actively in charge of the legal conduct of the case, he said;

Investigation Being Pushed

"Evidence has been obtained and placed in the hands of these representatives of the state, and the investigation is being vigorously carried on at this time. I earnestly hope that law-abiding citizens will back up the prosecution; that the jurors will have the courage to do their duty; that the perpetrators of this horrible crime may be brought to the bar of justice and dealt with as they deserve."

Cut Education Fund

It was disclosed by the governor that the budget commission, of which he is the head, had lopped off nearly $1,000,000 from the amount required by the state department of education for running the schools this year.

"In the budget recommendation for the year," he said, "I have recommended, not in an arbitrary way but based upon my firm conviction that it was right, a reduction to public schools from the basis of enrollment to that of average attendance plus ten per cent. The ten per cent, I have ascertained from competent sources, covers all legitimate absences. The amount required by the Superintendent of Education was $4,462,626.33. In accordance with the above statement, I have reduced this in my recommeindation to $3,522,426.33."

Defends 6-0-1 Law

Taking cognizance of charges that the 6-0-1 law was productive of extravagance and had led to some padding of rolls in order to increase quotas of state aid, the governor went on:

"The 6-0-1 law is not responsible for all of the charges made against it. Had the old law still been upon the statute books, the appropriation would have been very much larger, and the abuse of the system no less. In education, as in all federal progress, the state must be the unit. To make it otherwise would be to bring about an unfair and unjust discrimination, more so than can possibly obtain under the present law."

Would Patrol Highways

Pointing to the heavy death toll taken by automobiles, the Governor made his suggestion for creating a State constabulary. "Our highway system has now reached that stage of development," he said, "when considerable portions of it at least should be policed. This would cost some money, bu it would save lives, the value of which cannot be calculated in the terms of dollars and cents." The organization, he continued, should be directly under the chief executive, and should be expanded into "a statewide constabulary sufficient in numbers and efficient enough in work to render the greatest duty to the State, both in the prevention of accidents and crime and the enforcement of the law."

With regard to cotton farming the Governor, citing the advantages enjoyed by the western part of the belt over this part in the matter of cheap production, declared:

"As we contemplate these stubborn facts, we must realize that ere long cotton production in South Carolina must cease on account of impossible competition."

For New Penitentiary

He recommended that financial provision be made whereby the state department of agriculture and Clemson College could cooperate in mapping out a plan of balanced farming for the State, with especial attention to the building up of a marketing system for other products than cotton.

A large portion of the Governor's message was devoted to a review of the growth shown by various departments and institutions since he became chief executive four years ago. He repeated his advocacy of a new penitentiary, saying:

"It is not only desirable and necessary from the standpoint of humanity but likewise for its economic value to the State."

Would Change Oath

Columbia, Jan. 12. (By Herald Correspondent) Governor McLeod today delivered his annual message to the legislature, advocating tightening up of anti-lynching laws, to include increase of penalty against counties in which lynching occurs, and changing of oath of officers to substitute for vow against participation in duelling the statement that he had never participated in lynching.

Governor McLeod also recommended change in 6-0-1 law to provide for attendance rather than enrollment as basis of state aid. He also recommended creation of state highway police for protection of public and property on roads of state. He also advocated new penitentiary.

Delivered in Person

The governor gave comprehensive review of state's finances and progress during the past year. The message was delivered in person. Answered criticisms that had been aimed at him he said as to investigation of Lowman lynching, declaring he had prosecuted hard as possible and believed the matter was being well handled by Attorney General Daniel and Solicitor Carter, said criticism was unfair.

Legislature in joint session today elected Associate Justice Watts of supreme court as chief justice to succeed late Chief Justice Gary. Will elect successor to Watts later on.

STAMP OUT MOB LAW BAR ASSOCIATION AIM

Judge Houston's Address At Law School Celebration.

UNIVERSITY, Miss., March 2.—The feature of the annual celebration of the law school was the address by Judge W. D. Houston, president of the Mississippi Bar Association. The address was delivered in the morning to the law students of Ole Miss, and the annual banquet was held that evening in Gordon Hall.

Hon. Walter [illegible], district attorney of this circuit court district, acted as toastmaster at the banquet and added a great deal to the occasion by his witty introductions of the various speakers. After introductory remarks by Judge T. C. Kimbrough, dean of the law school, Robert Farley, professor of law, gave a short talk on "Memoirs of the Mississippi Law School." Chancellor Alfred Hume spoke on "The Law School as an Integral Part of the University," and incidentally raked Mencken over the coals for his recent attack upon Mississippi and its university. Judge Houston gave an interesting and amusing speech upon the subject of "The Infant Barrister."

In his address of the morning Judge Houston spoke interestingly of the history of the university and the part it has played in the development of our state. Especial tribute was paid to L. Q. C. Lamar, the great statesman who served Mississippi and the nation as few others have, but who today rests beneath a simple marble slab, apparently forgotten by the people of the state which he served so long.

Judge Houston laid down some of the vital principles of the definite program of the Mississippi Bar Association for the coming year. After explaining the policy by which effort is being made to have the public more fully informed as to the Constitution of the United States and its meaning to each citizen, through speakers being provided for all schools and colleges one day each year and the incorporation of a study of the constitution in all the schools of the state, he outlined some of the most important work of the association for this year. Judge Houston said in part:

"An activity of the State Bar Association is along the line of trying to help stamp out mob law in Mississippi. Along with the governor and other prominent citizens, my worthy immediate predecessor, Hon. J. N. Flowers, helped to prepare, issue and widely distribute a pamphlet of about 80 pages on this subject; in which various suggestions were made as to how different officers and people might assist in the work.

"For the purpose of more coherently organizing the lawyers of Mississippi, I expect to recommend the appointment at our next meeting of a committee to consider the advisability of adopting either one of two plans—that which obtains in North Dakota, Idaho, New Mexico, Alabama and other states, known as the 'all-inclusive,' or 'corporate,' or compulsory plan, by and under which the bar will be incorporated by the Legislature, and all lawyers of the state will be members, and subject to the jurisdiction of this incorporated association—or the plan which obtains in the state of Washington, that the membership of the state association shall consist, in addition to its present members, of organized county and local associations, which shall contribute their proper proportion to the budget to raise funds for the necessary purposes of the association.

"I purpose also to recommend [illegible] as to our state judges. Time and propriety forbid that I shall discuss either of these matters [illegible] our Legislature should follow suit [illegible] admission to the bar [illegible] admitted to take the [illegible] as to having bar examiners [illegible] the examination was accepted and enacted into the [illegible] the supreme bench law in 1916, some of the provisions [illegible] preme judges exam- were changed, among others that [illegible] Afterwards this the examiners were to be appointed [illegible] chancellors. Both by the governor rather than elected [illegible] found unsatisfactory by the supreme court, as our bill pro- [illegible] test of the State Bar vided, and most of our provisions as [illegible] prepared a bill which to higher educational qualifications [illegible] by the association were eliminated. We purpose to try [illegible] dissenting vote, and to have the law perfected in these [illegible] re its passage by the respects and perhaps in others. We [illegible] while its main fea- trust you will join hands and hearts [illegible] our association was done by the chancellors as to be cures as to [illegible] ke the bar, or even to [illegible] ke the supreme judges exam- preme judges [illegible] by the [illegible] dissenting [illegible] re its [illegible] while [illegible] federal judges, and I feel that educational standard required for [illegible]

with us in these matters.

"It is our duty and obligation to be defenders of the state, and it remains for us in active life to demonstrate by our lives that we are the defenders of the state, and it is for this and other universities to continue to so educate the heads and hearts of our young men that they can so bear their banners as to let all the world know that they defend the state."

ANTI-LYNCH BILL IS UP IN MISSOURI

Solons Would Set the Damages at $5,000

Jefferson City, Mo., Feb. 18.—An anti-lynch bill was introduced in the house of representatives last Friday by John Davis, a member of our Race who is a representative from St. Louis county.

The bill sponsored by Representative Davis provides that $5,000 damages can be collected from the county by relatives of lynching victims, and the county in turn can recover from bondsmen of the officer responsible for the protection of the prisoner in his keeping.

To attempt to lynch a person is to be made a felony punishable by from two to 10 years imprisonment. Persons injured in an attempted lynching can collect $5,000 damages by another provision of the bill.

The representative is also the backer of a bill introduced prohibiting motion picture houses and theaters from staging performances tending to create racial prejudices and hatred.

killed in defending a prisoner against a mob. Exemplary damages of $2,000 now in force against the county for the estate of a person lynched are retained by Senator Hammond's proposed amendment.

The governor would be directed, by the bill, to remove from office any sheriff or deputy from whose custody a prisoner has been taken by lawless force and killed or subjected to bodily harm.

The senate adjourned at 2 o'clock to meet at 11 o'clock tomorrow morning.

S. C. Governor Urges Anti-Lynch Pledge

COLUMBIA, S. C.— An anti-lynching pledge, to be signed by all individuals taking office in this state, was urged by Governor Thomas G. McLeod, retiring governor of South Carolina, in a farewell message to the state legislature. McLeod who has failed to punish the mob which perpetrated a triple lynching is now candidate for a federal job.

Sen. Reed Favors Anti-Lynch Bill

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan 27.—That Senator David A. Reed of Pennsylvania favors any constitutional measure that would tend to diminish the crime of lynching, was indicated in a statement made here by him last week. He doubtful however, in the opinion of the senator, that any such legislation will be enacted before the expiration of the present short session.

COLORED SOLON PRESENTS ANTI-LYNCHING BILL

(By The Associated Negro Press)

Jefferson City, Mo.—John A. Davis recently elected legislator from St. Louis, introduced an anti-lynching bill in the house of representatives recently which provides that the family of any person lynched by a mob may bring suit against the county in which the lynching occurred, for damages up to $5,000. If a judgment was rendered the county would be authorized to recover the amount from the bonds of county peace officers who fail to prevent the lynching.

The bill further provides that any person participating in a lynching by a mob shall be deemed guilty of first degree murder. If the mob victim suffers injuries only, the members of the mob would be subject to imprisonment from two to ten years.

SOUTH CAROLINA BILL HITS MOBS

Columbia, S. C., February 15.—(AP) Prosecutions for presentments or indictments of persons implicated in a lynching case would be authorized in any county of the state at the discretion of the attorney general, without regard to the statute of limitations governing lynching, according to a joint resolution introduced today by Senator James Hammond, of Richland county.

The joint resolution, which would amend that part of the constitution relating to crimes of mob violence, would also render any county liable to exemplary damages of $5,000 to the estate of any officer or citizen

BROOKLYN TIMES
FEB 16 1927

ANTI-LYNCHING BILL ENDORSED

Federation of Christian Women of Mount Vernon

The January meeting of the Federation of Christian Women held at the Church of the Ascension yesterday was most spirited and replete with interest.

Mrs. Walter King Cooley, the president, presided and the rector Rev. Melford Losee Brown, welcomed the organization. Mrs Cooley introduced Mrs. Bayer president of the Westchester Woman's club, who, in a short address stressed the importance of federation. She spoke of the large number of club women who are actively engaged in church work.

The devotional part of the meeting was led by Mrs. Herbert A. Whitcombe. Mrs. Whitcombe made a strong plea for a "re-dedication of ourselves to our great work." Her message was that "only as we function, can our church function." "Only through personal dedication of our lives to Jesus Christ, can we hope to bring our efforts to fruition. It must be through sincere effort in our daily living to follow with humility the example of our Savior. We must know our church and dare to face all it asks of us. Try to understand the whole program of the church, all that the church stands for. Thus shall we grow kind, loving and tolerant to everybody, trusting Christ."

The business meeting followed. Minutes of November's meeting by the secretary, Mrs. Deering. Report of the treasurer, Mrs. DeWitt; report of the corresponding secretary, Mrs. Sheppard; report of program committee, Mrs. Gebbard.

Mrs. Harry P. Willcox as chairman of legislation committee, suggested some amendments to the constitution of the organization, which will be acted upon at the April meeting.

Mrs. Copley announced that the annual day of prayer would take place on March 4 at the First M. E. church, corner of Eighth avenue and Second street. There will be a morning session at 10:30 o'clock. Luncheon will be served by the ladies of the church. After luncheon there will be a short session which will merge into the Women's Bartholow Bible class. Rev. Dr. O. F. Bartholow will be the speaker.

The speaker of the afternoon was Rev. Dr. Henry H. Proctor, who was introduced by Mrs. Harry P. Willcox. Dr. Proctor is pastor of a large church in Brooklyn. He is a graduate of Fiske university and of Yale Divinity school. He was commissioned by General Pershing as spiritual advisor to negro troops in France.

He opened his remarks by saying what a unique part woman has had in the work of Jesus. Not a woman ever did an unkind thing to Jesus. Men crucified Him—it was left to woman to comfort Him. The very first time that Jesus revealed Himself as the Messiah, it was to the woman at the well, 'I am He.' A woman was the first commissioned preacher of the Gospel, for Christ said to Mary, 'Go and tell.'"

"I bring you a message of love from my people. I think among the twelve million of my race in the United States, we have worked out, within the last 60 years, 90 per cent. of the illiteracy and we have not learned the word hate.

"We are not foreigners but to the manor-born, for the first group of American negroes came to this country in 161[illegible].

"When four millions of my race were set free there was no Moses to lead them. Now we pay taxes on two billion dollars' worth of property. Within the last ten years, one million have come north. They were invited. Laborers were needed.

"Wherever the white man lives, he stands for justice. In the last 40 years, in the southland, 3,500 men, women and children have been shot or lynched without law, no man punished for it. My race has been held back from the light for 300 years. We come to you for light. We do not come only to get but to give physically and spiritually, but to do this we must love each other. These two races must co-operate.

"Over in France, it was the colored troops who buried our boys. I said to them there, America will not forget and I still believe America will not forget."

The women of the federation received this address with enthusiasm.

Mrs. Willcox moved that this body go on record as favoring the Dyre anti-lynching bill. This motion was carried. Resolutions of thanks to the Church of the Ascension and to those taking part, were passed.

The meeting closed with the singing by all, of the "Battle Hymn of the Republic," led by Mrs: Farber and the benediction pronounced by Rev. Dr. Proctor.

ARGUS
MOUNT VERNON, N. Y
JAN 13 1927

BILL LEGALIZES LYNCHING

Bismarck, N. D., Feb. 16.—Lynching, tar and feather parties and rail-riding would be legalized by a bill introduced in the North Dakota Senate today.

There is no chance of the bill's passing, Senate leaders said.

acted upon at this session of Congress.

Yours very truly,
(Signed)
Charles S. Deneen, Ill.

JCM:HW

WHEELING, W. VA.
Register
JAN 18 1927

Legislation Against Lynching

With the Dyer bill reintroduced in Congress to prevent lynching by Federal statute the warning of Governor McLeod, as contained in his message to the South Carolina legislature, is timely and upon which the Pittsburgh Chronicle Telegraph comments as follows:

"In his farewell message, South Carolina's retiring Governor says the first duty of his state is to put an end to the hideous evil of lynching. Taking for his text the recent murder of three persons by a mob at Aiken, he asserts, in effect, that it will be useless for southern states to contend through their representatives at Washington that there is no need for Federal legislation on this subject so long as such crimes are permitted to go unpunished.

"Referring to an ancient statute which bars persons who have participated in duels from holding public office, Gov. McLeod urges that any who have taken part in lynchings be similarly disqualified. Other recommendations are the imposition of heavier fines on counties where lynchings occur and severe punishment for officers of the law who fail to prevent such outrages.

"It is rarely that an executive of a southern state speaks out so boldly on this subject. It might be said that Gov. McLeod is doing so only because he is retiring from office, were it not for the consistently courageous course he has pursued during his term of official service. There are some objections, on broad grounds of state rights, to the Dyer anti-lynching bill which has been reintroduced in Congress, but Federal action will be imperative unless the southern states take more vigorous steps to suppress the evil."

The Register has ever been opposed to Federal laws covering statuatory offenses, believing that the states are thoroughly capable of meting out whatever manner of punishment is required. The Government does not attempt to track down and punish murderers. That function is left to the states, so why the necessity of a law that would impose a heavy fine upon states that fail to apprehend lynchers any more than one which would levy a fine when murderers escape the law?

However, there have been instances wherein, because of race feeling, officers have aided and abetted lynchers. Such practices should not be countenanced and, as Governor McLeod points out, it is just such acts that create a demand for Federal legislation covering lynching.

Lynchings-1927
Legislation Relating to.

2489

2. Will Lynchings Decrease Now?

Nebraska passes the anti-lynching bill which was introduced into the legislature of that state by Ferdinand L. Parnet, Negro member of the lower house. The bill provides that the sum of 1,000 dollars be paid by such counties, to the heirs of any person killed by mob violence, within their boundaries. With the sucessful passage of this bill, mob rule receives a death blow, and another method is provided whereby the lawbreakers course and justice have at least a chance.—Where a penalty is involved, the protection afforded prisoners will be portionate.

COLORED REPRESENTATIVE INTRODUCES ANTI-LYNCHING BILL FOR MISSOURI

(By Associated Negro Press)

Jefferson City, Mo., Feb. 9.—The legislature of this bourbon state received a slight shock last Thursday when Representative John A. Davis, one of St. Louis colored legislators, introduced a bill which provided that any person participating in a lynching mob shall be deemed guilty of first degree murder. The bill provides penalties of ten years but if the victim is killed, his family may bring suit against the county for $5,000, the amount to be recovered from the bonds of county peace officers. The bill has little chance of passing.

PUBLIC LEDGER
PHILADELPHIA, PA.
MAY 11 1927

Anti-Lynching Laws

IN REFUSING to approve an anti-lynching act passed at the recent session of the Delaware General Assembly, Governor Robinson said he objected to making the State liable for the death or injury of a person through mob violence. Specifically, the act provided that the family of a mob victim might collect $1000 from the State in the event of death, or sue for damages if the person were not killed. There could be no criticism of Governor Robinson's objection to such a provision if it were not for the danger of Federal intervention if the States fail to take cognizance of mob action. A single lynching case causes concern throughout the country. A few of them within a brief period might lead Congress to take drastic action. But the curbing of mob violence is a task for the States, not one to be thrust upon or usurped by the Federal Government. In view of the necessity of State action to preserve State jurisdiction, a liability provision such as that in the Delaware bill hardly seems worth quibbling over.

Coolidge Support of Anti-Lynch Bill Urged

President Coolidge has been asked by Negro leaders in New York and other northern cities to send a special message to Congress urging the immediate passage of the Anti-Lynching Bill. The President was also urged to help eliminate racial segregation in governmental departments and to aid the Southern Negro obtain his right to vote. The first lynching of 1927 took place in Texas, where a 35-year-old Negro was hanged by a mob near Conroe for alleged cutting of a white man.

An anti-lynching bill has been introduced into the Missouri state legislature by John Davis, Negro delegate from St. Louis County. The bill would make a felony of lynching, punishable with from two to ten years' imprisonment. Under the measure the family of the victim may collect $5,000 damages from the county.

N. Y. WORLD
FEB 27 1927

The World prints herewith extracts from articles in organs of labor unions and the Communist and Socialist Parties, showing the trend of thought on public questions among those bodies of citizens.

NEED FOR ANTI-LYNCHING LAW
(From the Illinois Miner, Union Labor)

Lynchings, which in the last two years have shown a gratifying decline, are again on the way up in the United States. One of the most horrible crimes in recent years was the triple lynching of three Negroes in South Carolina. These victims were taken from the jail and killed, although one of them had just been declared innocent after trial, and the other two, one a woman, had been granted a new trial. It is alleged that the police officers were accomplices in this crime. The public authorities of South Carolina were as usual doing nothing until Walter White of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and later The New York World goaded them into action. It is yet too soon to predict that there is courage enough and decency enough in South Carolina to bring the lynchers to justice.

Not to be behind hand in crime Texas reports a triple lynching for reasons unknown! Two of the victims—a man and his wife—were burned to death in their cabin. This in the country of the Fundamentalists, who pride themselves on their religious zeal.

In view of these facts and others like them, it is high time to revive agitation for a Federal Anti-Lynching Law. It would, of course, have been better if the State had taken care of this matter. A Federal law will not be self-enforcing. Nevertheless, if American citizenship means anything, it means the right to life as against the mob. The United States is bound to guarantee that to its Negro citizens. Undoubtedly the previous agitation for the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill in Congress was partly responsible for the improvement in the South. This time support should be given to the bill in dead earnest. There is no room for sectional feeling in this matter, nor can the North, in view of its own race riots, assume a holier-than-thou attitude. All of us as decent citizens must get together to remove from the United States a disgrace which is not shared by the most backward peoples on the earth.

BILL TO SUPPRESS LYNCHING

Senator Hammond, of Richland county, has introduced in the Senate of South Carolina a bill which, if it becomes a law, will put an end to lynching in that State.

It goes to the very heart of the lynching evil. It provides that the Attorney General of the State shall have power to try lynchers in any county in the State, regardless of the place where the lynching occurs. This provision assures a fair trial to the accused and furnishes the same guarantee that a federal law would furnish, namely removing the trial of lynchers from the scene of their lynching operation, where public sympathy is almost always arrayed on the side of the lynchers, besides family connections and friends rendering it almost impossible to secure a jury free from their influence, and ofttimes a jury itself comprising members of the lynching mob, and thus making it reasonably sure that men guilty of mob murder will not be punished for their crime.

The governor, under the bill, is also directed to remove a sheriff or deputy from whom a prisoner was seized and killed or given bodily injury.

The bill also includes a provision amending the constitution giving to the estate of any officer or citizens killed while defending a prisoner against a mob $10,000 to be paid by the county in which the killing occurred.

The Hammond bill is the most far reaching measure yet proposed for the suppression of lynching. If its author succeeds in having it written into the body of laws of South Carolina he will have won an achievement that should place his name high among the greatest statesmen that South Carolina has produced. And if it becomes law in South Carolina its provisions will be copied in other States of the South lynching will be a deadly pastime to its devotees and in a few years a lost art in South Carolina.

It is devoutly to be hoped that a majority of the members of both houses of the General Assembly of South Carolina will rise to the occasion and exhibit the wise statesmanship that the author of the lynching bill reveals in proposing it.

2-19-27

Lynching has got to be suppressed; it can be suppressed by federal legislation; it can be suppressed by arousing in every suspected criminal the fury and desperation of a wild animal who will attack and kill every human being who attempts to approach him, or it can be suppressed by such an enactment as the Hammond bill.

Wise statesmanship demands and commands that each State control in its own courts, through its own laws this terrible situation. If the States do not control and suppress it, it is absolutely certain that the federal government must suppress it.

Baltimore, Md.

The present gestures towards passing a federal lynch law is purely political. There is not the slightest fear that the Republican party will pass a federal lynching suppression bill until public sentiment indicates that the party will gain votes by the passage of such a measure.

Such diabolical, brutal murders as the Aiken lynching greatly increase the public horror against lynching and a wave of sentiment is growing in favor of its suppression. The public whether by federal intervention or otherwise. The passage of is getting to feel that it must be suppressed. from the realm

South Carolina will do well to lead in the passage of law that will remove the lynching menace from the realm of federal control and take it out of the hands of the politicians to use to secure votes.

2489

State Must Curb the Mob or Federal Power Will Curb State

Liberty, Law and Violence—The Rights and Powers of the State in Danger—National Anti-Lynch Laws. National Sentiment.

BY GEORGE H. ETHRIDGE

Asociate Justice of the Sup me Court of Mississippi.

The happenings in Mississippi within the last few months, and the crimes followed by lynchings and others where lynchings were seriously threatened and the public sentiment was uneasy makes it proper, it seems to me, to enter a discussion of these problems and the application of remedies for these great evils. The remedies will have to be numerous and it will require a thorough discussion of them and the application of educational principles both to crime and to that criminal method of punishing crime known as "lynch law." Lynchings have been of frequent occurrence throughout the south, but Mississippi has too often shown up either at the head of the list in the numbers of lynchings or dangerously near the top. These lynchings have usually been caused by resentment to serious crimes, crimes well calculated to throw people into a frenzy of excitement and a bloodthirsty desire for speedy revenge. Sometimes these lynchings have occurred by taking prisoners from officers who had arrested them and who were going to bring their crimes to the attention of the law-enforcing authorities and where sure legal executions would have taken place within a reasonable time.

It is not doubted that lynchings are great evils and that they are universally condemned by the most thoughtful and the best enlightened people the whole world over. The crimes which are committed, supposedly (and generally actually) by the victims of mob violence are such as to cause all justice-loving people to desire speedy justice to be meted out to them. Civilization, however, has found it necessary to proceed cautiously in inflicting the death penalty on any person, and the rules of procedure in the courts are the fruits of ages of experience. They are such that justice will be more certainly done in all cases where they are observed than where they are not, although some delay be inevitable if they are applied. Civilization has learned that it is dangerous and not conducive to the public safety and welfare for the private citizen, in his individual capacity, to inflict punishment for such wrongs. It is the function of the whole public to provide for law and its administration and enforcement. It is also demonstrated by ample experience that public punishment, carefully arrived at, and cautiously inflicted, is more certain to secure respect for law and order and to prevent other crimes than is speedy and violent [illegible] without the precaution and safeguards of the law as thus developed by experience.

Must Meet Evil Cautiously.

It is a horrible thing to inflict death upon any person without being absolutely sure that the victim has committed the crime. While the public reason is disturbed and the passions aroused it is a dangerous time to undertake speedy punishment, and if punishment, especially the death punishment is administered, it will recoil and the mischief it breeds is far greater than the law's delay. No sentiment of tenderness ought to be entertained for the criminal, and especially the criminal who commits crimes of the character that draws the vengeance of the mob. But the evils of such crimes, and the crime of mob law must be met candidly with reason and prudence. Evils cannot be eradicated suddenly. It takes education, courage and patient determination to eradicate them.

The first step, it seems to me, that is necessary, is to get to the public mind what the law is and what penalties will be inflicted for law violations of each kind, and then to get the philosophy of the law and the necessity of its existence and enforcement in the minds of the whole people. One trouble now is that so few people know what the law is and what penalty may be inflicted in each case for specific crimes, and there is so little known of the reasons for the law and the reasons that make it necessary to enforce the law if breached and the necessity of observing the law as a matter of individual and public welfare. This lack of information is largely the cause of law-breaking and sympathy for the law-breaker. The same people who are most quick in joining a mob when some horrible crime has been committed in the excitement of the hour are often engaged when excitement is not prevalent in thwarting and defeating the law as to ordinary crime and when there is no popular excitement.

The man who aids the small law-breaker may expect lawlessness to grow and prevail. He has no right to expect anything else. It follows as the night follows the day. Few people know that the members of a mob who inflict death without the law are murderers. They are, nevertheless. Every person who takes part in a mob or who counsels mob violence or aids it in any manner is guilty of murder just as though he had actually killed without authority of law. He is subject to indictment and trial at any time. It may be years before he will be called upon to face the courts of his country. He may never, in fact, be indicted. Often they are not. But times may change and public sentiment may at any time change so as to demand that the law be enforced against the mob. There is no time limit on when such a person may be tried. It may be concealed for years, yet some man who participated therein may become penitent and conscience-stricken and make a full confession, and in doing so may give the names of the others who were in the mob. A trial may take place, and if it does a conviction may be had of any one or all of the members of the mob. When you go into such a mob you place your own life in the hands of your fellowman. He may rightfully expose you. He may not be willing to perjure his soul before God to protect you; you may be convicted and hung for your crime. Few people would join a mob if they realized that there was not only a possibility that they are in the sight of the law and not only moral murderers, but also murderers under the law and liable to punishment.

People Would Be Taught.

Many people commit crimes without knowing that they are doing so. They do not know what the law is and consequently cannot know what punishment may be meted out to them for their conduct. As I have already said, the law is a necessity for the protection of the people. It is supposed to be enacted by the people themselves and they ought to be willing to obey it. It ought to be taught to every person in so far as it affects crime. The criminal law ought to be taught in every school to every child above 12 years of age. Every school teacher ought to know the criminal law and the reasons for its existence. They ought to lecture their classes at least once during each week of the school on some crime and its punishment and the reasons that make law necessary. It could do no harm and it has great possibilities of good. It would tend to make respect for the law and for the courts of the country. It would make better citizens. The subject is not difficult to learn. Everybody must be responsible for violating the law whether he knew he was violating it or not. It is only fair that they be taught the law so that they may know what it is, that they will have no excuse for ignorance, and no plea of ignorance when they are caught by the grand jury, or by the officers of the court, or when they are prosecuted by a neighbor who has been wronged by their law breaking.

Every person who exercises the rights of citizenship should be willing to perform the duties that go with the rights. In this country where we rule ourselves we ought to be informed of the criminal laws for they regulate the conduct of each man, woman and child. The prohibitive acts are generally necessary for the public peace, order and prosperity. If a law is not necessary it ought to be repealed; and it will be as soon as all the people know of its existence. If a new law is needed the best way to get it is for the people to know that there is no such law and that one is necessary. In this country, no tyrant can make laws for us. We are a self-governing people. We ought to obey our laws and we ought to be willing to let the law be enforced against those who wilfully break the law, and we ought to be willing for this to be done in the orderly way by the proper lawful authorities and legal machinery. It is dangerous for the people to be ignorant of the law and of their rights and duties as members of organized society. We ought to be as willing to give other people their rights as we are to claim our own. In no other way can people justly rule their country. The criminal laws of our state can be published for general distribution at a small cost if they are published in such numbers as to give the students of the schools each a copy as suggested above. It ought to be done. I think crime is due more to ignorance than is generally supposed. We must undertake in a serious way to remedy the situation which exists. The more ignorant a person is of the rules of right and wrong, the greater the necessity of giving him information of what the criminal laws are and the penalties that will be inflicted upon him if he disobeys the law.

We have churches to teach the moral law, but they should be supplemented by the state teaching its own rules, which it requires them to obey. A part of the fines assessed for law violation ought to be placed in the hands of the officers whose duty it is to discover and punish crime. Laws are made to obey, but they are violated often. This is often done in a secret way. Especially so where they are violated for profit or the purposes of making money out of the weaknesses of other people. Let the money that comes to each county in the way of fines and forfeitures be used, as far as it may be needed, in maintaining law and order. It would be a good idea for each community, at stated times, to have some of the county officers come out and lecture upon the duties of their offices and the necessity of obeying the law. They ought to be encouraged to catch those who are violating the law.

The State and the Nation.

One thing appears certain to me, and that is, if the states do not properly exercise the powers they have that they will, sooner or later, be conferred upon the national government. We, as a state, have been given the exclusive power of general police or the power of defining and punishing crime. It is true that the nation has a limited power in defining and punishing crime, but it is generally speaking, crimes affecting the national powers. We have recently conferred upon Congress the power to punish the traffic in intoxicating liquor, and it is exercising a function jointly with the states over this subject. Two-thirds of each house of Congress can pass a constitutional amendment, and when it is ratified by three-fourths of the states it becomes a part of the constitution. It would not be wise for Congress to have the general power given to the states to define and punish crime. People would feel the heavy hand in many ways they have never known. Congress has threatened to pass an anti-lynch law, punishing the people of the states for lynching whether they were parties to the lynchings or not.

This law passed one house of Congress. It was approved by the dominant political party of the country, and its constitutionality (without an amendment to the constitution) was approved by the attorney general of these United States and by the judiciary committees of both houses of Congress, and was defeated with great difficulty. It is one of the greatest dangers that threatens the south. This generation has but little conception of the danger to our people that such a law, if passed, and held constitutional, would have.

We are now in possession of the entire field of state government; we hold all the offices, legislative, executive and judicial. Yet the white people of the state are less than one-half of its population. Practically 60 per cent of the population are negroes and they are less prepared to do justice than we are, and would be less inclined to do so were they in power. With the number of criminally inclined that exist among them we don't know what might face us were they placed in power and control of the states' affairs. We are capable of carrying out the law in all cases because we have full political power in all branches of the government. We ought not to resort to mob violence under such circumstances.

There may be conditions under which mob violence would be justifiable, but when we are in full control of all branches of the government, with the courts and juries composed of white men, there is no excuse for mob violence. The north has been patient with us in solving our complex and dangerous problems, but unless we do justice and suppress crime, including mob violence, they will cease to let us manage it. An anti-lynch law will be passed. It will be declared constitutional, or if it shc

it is passed, necessary constitutional amendment will be passed. Judges will be sent among us from outside the south and juries will be selected differently from what we have and these laws will be enforced. Let us do some serious thinking and then let us act prudently and lawfully. Let's try criminals in the courts and not by mobs. Let us measure up to the high expectation of the civilized world and act as men imbued with righteousness and courage and justice. The world's sentiment is against mob rule and we can not safely ignore that sentiment.

We of the south are greatly in the minority and talk of resisting the mature mind of the rest of the country would be foolish. Let's keep our situation in our own hands and be satisfied with the justice of the law. If lawful administration is not as certain and speedy as we would like let us reflect that there is but little perfection in this world. Let us face the situation manfully. We know when we address our minds to it with courage we will improve it.

Lynchings-1927
Legislation Relating to.

2490

Geneva, Ala., Reaper

DEC 23 1928 DEC 23 1928

Federal Law Against Lynching

Washington — Encouraged probably by what might be interpreted as an invitation for such action contained in President Coolidge's address to the Congress, Representative Dyer has reintroduced his celebrated anti-lynching bill and is expected to press it for action before the present session closes.

Any serious effort to win passage of the Dyer bill is certain to bring about strenuous opposition, particularly on the part of Southern members of Congress, for while lynchings are opposed strongly by all leaders of thought in the South, the legislation proposed by the Missouri member is considered obnoxious from several points of view.

The phraseology of the Dyer bill is sufficiently broad, it is believed, to bring within its scope floggings by lawless bands, masked or otherwise, who may not be bent upon taking human life, but its plain purpose is to punish lynching.

The bill defines a mob or riotous assemblage as "an assemblage composed of three or more persons acting in concert, without authority of the law, for the purpose of depriving any person of his life or doing him physical injury. It provides fine or imprisonment for state or municipal officers who fail to protect prisoners from mobs, or fail to prosecute members of mobs with due diligence, and a penalty of $10,000 against any county in which a lynching occurs, the trials to be held in federal district courts. It is the broad authority which the bill seeks to convey upon federal courts to fine or imprison state or municipal or county officers and to collect penalties from counties that is most vigorously opposed by those against this measure.

TOPEKA, KS. CAPITAL WEEKLY
DECEMBER 23, 1927

Plaindealer

PRESIDENT COOLIDGE ASKS FOR ANTI-LYNCHING LEGISLATION

Washington, Dec. 2[illegible]—President Coolidge, in his message to the Seventieth Congress, December [illegible], 1927

plainly stated that the Congress should enact any legislation which it can, under the Constitution, to provide for the elimination of unlawful violence, prefacing this request with the statement that "they (Negroes) have especially been made the target of the foul crime of lynchng." The entire text of the President's reference, in his message, to the welfare of the Negro is as follows:

"History does not anywhere record so much progress made in the same length of time as that which has been accomplished by the Negro race in the United States since the Emancipation Proclamation. They have come up from slavery to be prominent in education, the professions, art, science, agriculture, banking and commerce. It is estimated that 50,000 of them are on the government payrolls, drawing about $50,000,000 each year. They have been the recipients of presidential appointments and their professional ability has arisen to a sufficiently high plane so that they have been intrusted with the entire management and control of the great veterans' hospital at Tuskegee, where their conduct has taken high rank.

"They have shown that they have been worthy of all the encouragement which they have received. Nevertheless, they are too often subjected to thoughtless and inconsiderate treatment, unworthy alike of the white or colored races. They have especially been made the target of the foul crime of lynchng. For several years these acts of unlawful violence had been diminishing. In the last year they have shown an increase. Every principle of order and law and liberty is opposed to this crime. The Congress should enact any legislation it can under the Constitution to provide for its elimination."

Strong Republican leaders in both houses of the Congress have doubtless already planned to present an anti-lynching bill in the near future, at which time the ever present spectre of States Rights, as advocated by the democratic party, will again make its Congressional appearance, to be followed by the customary democratic filibuster, threatening ruin to the Nation's entire legislative program rather than to acquiesce in the passage of statuary law which would insure to all American citizens, wherever they reside, the full and equal protection of the law.

PRESIDENT COOLIDGE ASKS FOR ANTI-LYNCHING LEGISLATION.

Washington. —President Coolidge, in his message to the Seventieth Congress, December 6, 1927, plainly stated that the Congress should enact any legislation which it can, under the Constitution, to provide for the elimination of unlawful violence, prefacing this request with the statement that "they (Negroes) have especially been made the target of the foul crime of lynching." The entire text of the President's reference, in his message, to the welfare of the Negroes is as follows:

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In their preliminary actions in the Senate and House, in protesting against the seating of Senators-elect Vare and Smith, of Pennsylvania and Illinois, respectively, and Congressman-elect Beck, of the First Pennsylvania district, the democrats have already given gestural warning that they do not propose to honor the Constitution whenever it may seemingly contravene the sacred statutes of the Southern democratic States. To them the Constitution is the supreme law of the land only when State sovereignty is recognized, as in the days of secession.

This view will undoubtedly obtain when the Republican Congress responds to President Coolidge's request for anti-lynching legislation for the protection of free-born American citizens.

Important Bills Affecting Negro, Before Congress

New York City.—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 69 Fifth Avenue, calls attention to two bills introduced in the new congress just [illegible] Washington, of [illegible] interest to Negroes.

The first is the Dyer federal anti-lynching bill, reintroduced in this congress by Representative Leonidas C. Dyer of Missouri as H. R. 5640. [illegible] view of President Coolidge's strong pronouncement on the "foul crime" of lynching and his strong recommendation that "the congress should enact any legislation it can for its elimination", the reintroduction of the Dyer bill is of especial interest.

The second bill is introduced by Representative George Holden Tinkham of Massachustees as House Resolution 34, directing a report from the census committee in connection with legislation to reapportion congressional representation. This resolution would reduce the representation from Southern states which disfranchise the Negro.

CONGRESS GETS BATCH OF BILLS ON RACE ISSUE

Dyer Anti-Lynching, Howard University Measures Reintroduced

Special to the Journal and Guide

Washington, D. C., Dec. 7—Into the legislative grist mill of the seventieth Congress, which convened at noon Monday, were poured 5,400 bills and resolutions, ranging from private to national in interest.

Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill

Included in this number was the Dyer anti-lynching bill. Representative Leonidas C. Dyer, Republican, of Missouri, reintroduced in the House of Representatives the measure which bears his name. He has been doing this at every session of the Congress ever since passage of his bill was blocked by a Democratic filibuster in the Senate in the closing days of the sixty-seventh Congress.

A resolution directing the Committee on the Census to submit a report in connection with legislation providing for a reapportionment of Representatives in Congress was introduced by Representative George Holden Tinkham, Republican, of Massachusetts. The purpose of this resolution is the reduction of representation in the Congress of Southern states in which Negroes are disfranchised. The resolution was referred to the Committee on Rules.

Howard University Bill

Two bills to amend the original act of incorporation of Howard university were introduced. Their object is to authorize Federal appropriations to Howard university. At present there is no authority in law for the annual appropriations that are made to the school. Points of order against the appropriations are

always made and sustained in the House of Representatives. The Senate restores the items that are stricken out in the House on the points of order. The passage of one of these bills would stop the making of points of order against appropriation to the university. One of the bil

Batch of Bills On Race Issue Goes To Congress

(Continued from Page 1)

was introduced by Representative Daniel A. Reed, of New York, and the other by Representative Louis C. Crampton, of Michigan, both Republicans.

Prize Fight Films Measure

Two bills were also introduced to repeal the act prohibiting the importation, manufacture and interstate transportation of prize fight films. They were referred to the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce. The law prohibiting the interstate transportation of prize fight films was passed in the championship days of Jack Johnson.

Representative Emanuel Celler, Democrat, of New York, reintroduced his bill to create a Negro industrial commission.

A bill to extend the provisions of the Federal farm loan act to the Virgin Islands was introduced by Representative Louis T. McFadden, Republican, of Pennsylvania.

Except for the two resolutions by Senator George W. Norris, Republican, of Nebraska, seeking to withhold seats from Senators Frank L. Smith and William S. Vare, no resolutions or bills were introduced Monday in the Senate.

Congress convened at noon Monday. The House organized by reelecting Speaker Nicholas Longworth. The Senate did not organize. Senators-elect Vare and Smith were not permitted to take the oath of office. Disposal of their cases was postponed until after the President's message was read on Tuesday.

Representative James M. Beck was challenged in the House on the ground that he is not a resident of Philadelphia where he was elected. He was seated and his case will come up later.

COURIER-CITIZEN
LOWELL, MASS.
DEC 10 1927

ANTI-LYNCHING LAWS.

Repeatedly in public addresses President Coolidge has put forth theories regarding the limitations of federal power that might well have proved acceptable even to such a pronounced advocate of states rights as Governor Ritchie of Maryland. The president has never made an effort to reconcile these theories with his unwavering support of the Volstead act. It is possible that many will note a further inconsistency with the principles which he has enounced in the recommendation contained in the annual message that Congress should enact an anti-lynching statute.

When Mr. Coolidge suggested any legislation of the sort than can be enacted "under the Constitution," he inserted a saving clause that might be of great importance. It is not clear that any effective statute whatever would be able to pass the test of constitutionality. We have regarded the various bills introduced in previous sessions of Congress as idle gestures, intended only to show that the Republican party is still the friend of the Negro, rather than as serious efforts to abate the lynching evil. President Coolidge is not in the habit of making these idle gestures, however, and we may suppose that he really thinks there is something that Congress can do about a situation which he justly deplores.

Leaving out the constitutional difficulties in the way of federal legislation, we are still not convinced that it would be wise to exert the federal power to protect the southern Negro. We have seen evidences that the eagerness of the South to force prohibition on the reluctant states of the Northeast has revived the disposition of northerners to coerce the South in matters connected with the Civil war amendments. At any rate one of the foremost advocates of what the South pleases to term "force bills" is also a consistent opponent of the Volstead act. We do not think the best way to convince the South of the folly of interference with state policing is to give that section an object lesson. We of the North would probably do better to furnish it with an example of forbearance.

This consideration ought not to weigh, of course, if the condition of the Negro really would be materially improved by such legislation, but it is to be feared that the result would be just the opposite. There has not been so much ground for encouragement that the South will work out its own problem during the present year as there was a year or two ago. Yet, if we go by the diminishing number of states in which the situation is showing no improvement, rather than by the total of cases throughout the South, there is more reason to take a cheerful view. There are only two states, Florida and Texas, in which conditions are not looking up. Elsewhere in the South, not only the better class of public opinion but the mass idea as well seems to be turning away from lynching to the orderly processes of the law. It is to be feared that federal interference would weaken the sense of local responsibility.

This very effect has been marked in the case of the national prohibition act, although every southern state ratified the 18th amendment and nearly every state of the group recorded a majority of its representatives in favor of submission. The effect on local efforts to suppress the lynching evil would probably be even more unfortunate, opposed as federal legislation has been and will continue to be by the unanimous vote of southern members of Congress. It will probably be for the best interest of the country if legislation of this sort is allowed to die in committee.

NEW YORK JOURNAL
ISSUE OF
DEC 13 1927

Bills Aid Negroes.

Wide interest among negroes of Harlem centers around announcement through the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People of the introduction of two important bills in Congress.

The first is the Dyer anti-lynching bill, reintroduced by Congressman Leonidas C. Dyer, of Missouri. The other is the Tinkham bill on census, under which negroes in the South would secure more thorough representation at the polls.

DYER INTRODUCES ANTI-LYNCH BILL

Representative To Press For Action On Measure At Present Session Of Congress

By RUSSELL KENT.
(Special Corespondent of The Montgomery Advertiser.)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17—Encouraged, probably, by what might be interpreted as an invitation for such action contained in President Coolidge's address to the Congress, Representative Dyer has reintroduced his celebrated anti-lynching bill and is expected to press it for action before the present session closes.

Any serious effort to secure passage of the Dyer bill is certain to bring about strenuous opposition particularly on the part of southern members of Congress, for while lynchings are opposed strongly by all leaders of thought in the South the legislation proposed by the Missouri member is considered obnoxious from several points of view.

The phraseology of the Dyer bill is sufficiently broad, it is believed, to bring within its scope floggings by lawless bands, masked or otherwise, who may not be bent upon taking human life, but its plain purpose is to punish lynching.

The bill defines a mob or riotous assemblage as "an assemblage composed of three or more persons acting in concert, without authority of law, for the purpose of depriving any person of his life or doing him physical injury." It provides fine or imprisonment for state or local officers who fail to protect prisoners from mobs, or fail to prosecute members of mobs with due diligence and a penalty of $10,000 against any county in which a lynching occurs, the trials to be held in federal district courts. It is the broad authority which the bill seeks to convey uopn federal courts to fine or imprison state or municipal or county officers and to collect penalties from counties, that is most vigorously opposed by those against this measure.

The Dyer bill bobs up at intervals. Particularly may it be seen in a prominent position on the eve of a presidential campaign.

And it is usual, too, for Republican presidents in their addresses to the Congress to make kindly references to the negro race and to condemn mob violence. President Coolidge has followed this custom. In the address at the opening of the present session, however, he went a little farther than heretofore and stated with some pride that 50,000 negroes "are on the government pay rolls, drawing about $50,000,000 a year." And the chief executive stated that last year lynching showed an increase, after having declined for several years and added: "The Congress should enact any legislation it can under the Constitution to provide for its elimination."

Southtrn members of Congress agree with the president that lynching is a "foul crime," but they believe it is a matter for state action with which the Federal government has no more concern than in any other case of a citizen of a state being injured by another citizen of the state.

The last serious effort to pass the Dyer bill was bahk in 1922, on the eve of the congressional elections. The bill passed the House. In the Senate, it was reported from committee and was givn a place on the calendar.

When the bill was called up by the Republican steering committee, the Democrats from the South, led by Senator Oscar W. Underwood, at that time the Democratic floor leader, started a filibuster which lasted three days and during which only two brief speeches were made by those conducting it, one by Underwood quietly announcing that the bill would not be allowed to pass and another by Senator Pat Harrison of Mississippi, who replied to Senator Shortridge of California who was in charge of the bill.

That filibuster violatd none of the rules which have been proposed by those who would reform the procedure of the Senate. With the brief exceptions noted, the talking all was done by proponents of the bill.

It should be understood that the Senate ordinarily expedites its routine. The reading of minutes is dispensed with by unanimous consent, etc. The Southern Democrats, in this instance, merely insisted upon all routine acts being performed in full. They questioned the accuracy of the minutes and forced roll calls on every point. They made the Republicans establish beyond doubt the initials of the chaplain and what he said in his prayer the day before the filibuster started. At the close of the third day, the minutes of a single day's session had not been approved by half—and Senator Shortridge and his followers gave up and withdrew the Dyer bill.

Underwood has retired, but the lessons he taught in filibustering without oratory but with marvelous effectiveness are remembered, together with other of his imprints upon the Senate.

PRES. COOLIDGE URGES CONGRESS TO ENACT ANTI-LYNCHING LEGISLATION

President Calvin Coolidge, in his message to the 70th Congress, read in both Houses simultaneously on Tuesday, paid a striking tribute to progress of the Negro in America, denounced the lawlessness of lynching, and declared that Congress ought enact whatever law is possible to put an end to mob activity against the Negro.

Under the heading, "The Negro," the message said:

THE NEGRO

History does not anywhere record so much progress made in the same length of time as that which has been accomplished by the Negro race in the United States since the Emancipation Proclamation. They have come up from slavery to be prominent in education, the professions, arts, science, agriculture, banking and commerce. It is estimated that 50,000 of them are on the government pay rolls, drawing about $50,000,000 each year. They have been the recipients of Presidential appointments, and their professional ability has arisen to a sufficiently high plane so that they have been intrusted with the entire management and control of the great veterans' hospital at Tuskegee, where their conduct has taken high rank. They have shown that they have been worthy of all the encouragement which they have received. Nevertheless they are too often subjected to thoughtless and inconsiderable treatment, unworthy alike of the white or colored races. They have been especially made the target of the foul crime of lynching. For several years these acts of unlawful violence had been diminishing. In the last year they have shown an increase. Every principle of order and law and liberty is opposed to this crime. The Congress should enact any legislation it can under the Constitution to provide for its elimination.

Lynchings - 1927
Legislation Relating to.

(1)

2491

Bill Would Remove Officers Who Fail to Protect Prisoners

Columbia, S. C., February 23.—(Special)—Prosecutions for presentments or indictments of persons implicated in a lynching case would be authorized in any county of the state at the discretion of the attorney general, without regard to the location of the lynching, according to a joint resolution introduced by Senator James Hammond of Richland county.

The joint resolution, which would amend that part of the constitution relating to crimes of mob violence, would also render any county liable to exemplary damages of $10,000 to the estate of any officer or citizen killed in defending a prisoner against a mob. Exemplary damages of $2,000 now in force against the county for the estate of a person lynched are retained by Senator Hammond's proposal.

The governor would be directed by the bill. to remove from office any sheriff or deputy from whose custody a prisoner has been taken by lawless force and killed or subjected to bodily harm.

Defender

CHICAGO, ILL., LINCOLNITE
Saturday, Mar. 12, 1927

Anti-Lynching Bill Is Introduced in Delaware

Dover, Del., March 11.—Among the flood of bills being introduced in the Delaware legislature is one for the suppression of mob violence introduced in the state senate Thursday by Senator Latchum. It specifies that "any collection of individuals, 10 or more in number, assembled to offer violence to any individual or property of one supposed to have been guilty of violating the law, shall be regarded as a mob," and all members of such mob would be guilty of a misdeameanor, punishable by a fine of $100 to $1,000 and imprisonment for 30 days to one year.

Any person in a mob who would inflict injury to a person or damage to his property would be deemed guilty of a felony and imprisoned for five years. Any person suffering at the hands of a mob would have the right of action for damages up to $1,000.

The bill further provides that if any sheriff permits a resident of this state to be taken from his custody by a mob and lynched "he shall be deemed guilty of a felony unless it is proved that he exercised every reasonable precaution to prevent action by the mob."

ANTI-LYNCH BILL BECOMES A LAW IN STATE OF NEB.

LINCOLN, Neb., April 20.—An anti-lynching bill introduced by the Hon. Ferdinand L. Barnaett, member of the lower house was passed by the state legislature Wednesday.

The Nebraska anti-lynching bill requires counties to pay $1,000 to the heirs of any person killed by a mob within their boundaries. The House of Representatives passed the bill by a vote of 90 to 3 while the Senate was unanimously in favor of it.

Movement for the passage of an anti-lynching measure in Nebraska was begun several years ago following the lynching of a man in Omaha.

DELAWARE PASSES LYNCHING DAMAGE BILL

Dover, Del., April 6.—A bill against lynching, submitted by Representative Davis, was passed by the house recently with only three dissenting votes. The bill provides that the state shall be subject to damages up to $1000 to the wife or minor of a person lynched.

The measure also provides penalties against members of mobs, whether they commit violence or not, ranging up to $1000 fine and imprisonment for twelve months, and declares the members of the mob guilty of a felony and subject to imprisonment.

Senator Latchum has a similar bill in the senate.

S. C. LEGISLATORS FAIL TO PASS BILL REGULATING LYNCHING

Columbia, S. C., March 19—(ANP) The bill providing for an amendment to the state constitution making officers responsible for the safekeeping of prisoners in their custody and making counties in which lynchings occur liable to the extent of $2,000.00 damages to the legal representatives of the persons lynched, was itself "lynched" here Friday, when 22 of the solons voted against the measure and 10 in favor of it.

The defeat of this bill has been taken as another indication that Southern law-makers are not against lynching and that the only way in which to curb or blot-out lynching in the South is through federal intervention.

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The bill further provides that if any sheriff permits a resident of this state to be taken from his custody by a mob and lynched "he shall be deemed guilty of a felony unless it is proved that he exercised every reasonable precaution to prevent action by the mob."

SENATE PASSES ROBERTS' BILL

The following bil, introduced in the Illinois Senate by Senator Adelbert H. Roberts was passed unanimously by that body.

This bill, to increase the election commissioners' salaries, will no doubt meet the universal approval of the colored voters in particular and the citizens generally, as they were disposed to be fair in preventing frauds and disfranchisement in the last election It is difficult to secure high-class honest officials, and when they serve all the people, faithfully, sincerely and well as the present commissioners are doing, Senator Roberts' move stands approved on all sides. The account of the proceedings by which it was passed follows:

On motion of Mr. Roberts, Senate Bill No. 48, a bill for "An Act to amend section 6 of Article II and section 1 of Article VII of An Act regulating the holding of elections and declaring the result thereof in cities, villages and incorporated towns in this State, approved June 19, 1885, as amended."

Having been transcribed, typed and printed, was taken up and read at large a third time.

And the question being, "Shall this bill pass?" it was decided in the affirmative by the following vote: Yeas, 32; nays, none.

Anti-Lynching Bill Introduced in Delaware

DOVER, Del., March 7.—Among the flood of bills being introduced in the Delaware Legislature is one for the suppression of mob violence introduced in the State Senate Thursday by Senator Latchum. It specifies that "any collection of individuals, ten or more in number, assembled to offer violence to any individual or property of one supposed to have been guilty of violating the law shall be regarded as a mob," and all members of such mob would be guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of $100 and imprisonment for thirty days to one year.

Any person in a mob who would inflict injury to a person or damage to his property would be deemed guilty of a felony and imprisoned for five years. Any person suffering at the hands of a mob would have the right of action against for damages up to $1,000.

The bill further provides that if any sheriff permits a resident of this State to be taken from his custody by a mob and lynched, "he shall be deemed as not having duly exercised every reasonable precaution to prevent action by the mob."

Delaware Passes Anti-Lynching Bill

Dover, Del.—A bill against lynching submitted by Representative Davis was passed by the House with but three dissenting votes.

The bill provides that the State shall be subject to damages up to $1,000 to the wife or minor children of a person lynched. It also provides penalties against members of mobs, whether they commit violence or not, ranging up to $1,000 fine and imprisonment for twelve months, and declares the members of a mob guilty of a felony and subject to imprisonment.

Senator Latchum has a similar bill in the Senate.

PASS ANTI-LYNCHING BILL IN THE STATE OF NEBR.

LINCOLN, Neb., April 13., —An anti-lynching bill has been passed by the State Legislature of Nebraska. The bill was introduced by Hon. Ferdinand L. Barnaett, colored member of the lower house.

The Nebraska anti-lynching bill requires counties to pay $1000 to the heirs of any person killed by a mob within their boundaries. The House of Representatives passed the bill by a vote of 90 to 3 while the Senate was unanimously in favor of it.

Movement for the passage of an anti-lynching measure in Nebraska was begun several years ago following the lynching of a Negro in Omaha.

REPUBLICAN
Scottsbluff-Neb.
MAR 19 1927

ANTI-LYNCHING BILL IS PASSED

HOUSE PASSES MEASURE MAKING COUNTIES LIAMLE FOR LYNCHING DAMAGES

That counties should be made to pay damages to the relatives of any person lynched by a mob, but that criminals convicted four times should not be sentenced to life terms in the penitentiary, is the rather inconsistent attitude taken by the lower wing of the legislature in passing one bill and defeating another.

Ninety solons went on record by their votes as endorsing the proposition that all the law abiding taxpayers of a county ought to be taxed to pay for the consequences of mob violence by individuals, but only forty-eight voted to put confirmed criminals permanently behind the bars, where they could no longer pursue their careers of theft, murder and other offenses against the law.

H. R. 401, the Barnett measure to penalize counties for lynchings committed within their borders, passed a third reading by 90 to 3. It allows relatives of any person suffering at the hands of a mob to recover $1,000 in damages from the county. Those voting "no" were Messrs. Burr, Skeen and O'Gara.

The bill contains a clause providing that if a mob seizes its victim in one county and carries him across the line into another, where the lynching is carried out, the latter county may sue the former and collect back any judgment obtained against itself, with costs.

On the White bill, H. R., 102, patterned after the Baumes laws of New York, forty-eight members voted "aye" and fifty "no." It took a call of the house to get even that much support, as the first roll call disclosed only forty-six supporting the measure while forty-five listed in opposition.

Besides making fourth offenders subject to life improsonment, the White bill also doubled the maximum penalties now provided for those convicted the second and third times.

Besides the anti-lynching bill, the house passed these measures after third reading:

H. R. 515—Provides for study of the state and national constitutions "in proper grades" of all public, private and denominational schools. Ayes, 93; nays, 1.

H. R. 240—Specifies what professional degrees may be issued to graduates of state normal schools. Ayes, 95; nays, 0.

H. R. 578—Increases number of county high school regents from 3 to 4, and provides that shall be elected two at a time for a term of

An Appreciation of Three Southern Statesmen

Oscar W. Underwood, of Alabama, completes a notable triumvirate of distinguished southern statesmen who have retired voluntarily from the senate of the United States within the recent past, Joseph W. Bailey of Texas and John Sharp Williams of Mississippi being the other two.

The senatorial arena is an unsurpassed field for the display of genuine ability, and in this shining theater of intellectual force and oratorical talent, Bailey, Williams and Underwood held sway as senators learned in the profoundest principles of statecraft, skilled in parliamentary practice, versed in every branch of political knowledge, powerful and persuasive orators, bold and triumphant debaters.

Editorial
3-17-27

The southern trio have played a great part in American statesmanship and American politics. They have filled a large place on the national stage. They have been victorious gladiators in many of the Titanic debates of congress. Their parliamentarian achievements shine luminously on the page of congresional history.

It was in the house, rather than in the senate, that Bailey, Williams and Underwood demonstrated their extraordinary powers of parliamentary leadership. They became representatives nearly at the same time. Bailey entered the house first, in 1891; Williams followed in 1893; and then Underwood in 1895. Bailey was the youngest in years and Williams the oldest. Bailey was in his twenty-eighth year, Williams in his thirty-ninth, and Underwood in his thirty-third. There is no legislative body in which a man finds his correct place more unerringly than in the house of congress, and Bailey, Williams and Underwood were not slow to find it. They grew steadily into national figures, by the force of intellect and strength of oratory.

Each became democratic house leader, Bailey was minority leader when the masterful statesman and dynamic debater from Maine, Thomas B. Reed, was speaker. Reed towered intellectually, and wielded the gavel with audacious defiance. But the able and brilliant Bailey always had the spirit of battle on his lips, and was ever found at the front, full panoplied, when Reed essayed to rule despotically, and regardless of the rights of the minority. The personal relations between Speaker Reed and Minority Leader Bailey were very friendly for quite a while, but suddenly there came a violent break in thier amicable relationship, which was never healed. It was reported around Washington that the fiery and impulsive Bailey challenged the "White Czar", as Senator Morgan termed Reed, to a duel. Bailey was the caucus nomine of his party for speaker of the fifty-fifth congress.

After an able and dramatic service of ten years in the house, Bailey was translated to the United States senate, in 1901, and there became one of the greatest debaters ever known in the history of that exalted forum. He was especially powerful as an expounder of constitutional questions. When clashing armor with a true knight in an intellectual tournament, Bailey always experienced

"The stern joy which warriors feel
In foemen worthy of their steel."

The hot-blooded Texan sometimes had personal differences with senators. Two of the most notable instances of these, which I recall, were, when he laid hostile hands on Senator Beveridge of Indiana, and had a serious disagreement with Senator Bacon of Georgia, and though no physical encounter occurred between them, their personal and social relations were broken for quite a period.

Near the close of his twelfth year as a senator, while his glowing mind was yet making luminous the pages of parliamentary history, he resigned the senatorial toga. His farewell address and retirement from the national stage, when not fifty years old, were epochal.

John Sharp Williams was house minority leader during the Roosevelt dynasty. He held this leadership and was democratic candidate for speaker in three congresses, 58th to 60th. "Uncle Joe" Cannon was speaker at the time. There was bitter rivalry for the minority leadership between Williams and the accomplished David A. DeArmond of Missouri, each of whom was ambitious to be speaker, and regarded the place as a spring-board to the speakership. Williams defeated DeArmond three times for the minority leadership, and so antagonistic was the feeling between them that they had a severe fistic encounter. DeArmond possessed splendid ability and was a master at sarcasm. He was burned to death in his own home.

A close and warm friendship existed between Speaker Cannon and Minority Leader Williams, but on one ocacsion Williams burst into passion over a ruling by the speaker, and according to the story, "when the house adjourned and Uncle Joe, meeting him, held out both hands in friendly greeting, the fiery Mississippian declined to take the hands. Later on, however, they kissed and made up."

When Judge William B. Lamar, so well known to Atlantians, was a congressman from Florida he heatedly denounced Minority Leader Williams and Democratic Congressman Dorsey W. Shackelford, of Missouri, one of the really strong men then in congress. Disagreement likewise existed between Williams and William Randolph Hearst, who was a democratic congressman during two of the terms Williams was minority leader. The hatred of Lamar and Shackelford for Williams was incident to their support, as committeemen, of a Hearst bill. Referring to the fisticuff between Williams and DeArmond, some one at the time described them as "the intellectual heavyweights but physical bantamweights of the democratic side of the house."

Following a brilliant service of eighteen years in the house, Mr. Williams became a commanding figure in the senate, and so continued for twelve years, until his retirement in 1923, leaving behind him a record for pure intellectuality which made him the peer of the greatest of the intellectuals with whom he had served in congress. He is a man of deep scholarship. Neither Caleb Cushing nor Rufus Choate nor Edward Everett nor William L. Wilson nor Henry Cabot Lodge, nor any other eminent statesman in congressional annals, was a more erudite scholar.

Oscar W. Underwood, who has just made his voluntary exit from the national stage, while his intellectual powers were at their zenith, was one of the powerful battery which made the spectacular and successful attack on "Cannonism" in the house. He was one of the comparatively few congressmen who garnered fame by linking names to important legislation. The "Underwood Tariff Bill" lives in history. The rare distinction was also his of having been the majority leader of the house, and leader of his party in the senate. This double leadership is a monument to his parliamentary ability and eminent statesmanship.

Mr. Underwood is suave, urbane, sedate, but resolute and courageous, for as Speaker Champ Clark declared, "Underwood carried a fist of steel in a velvet glove." One of the most dramatic occurrences ever in the house was Underwood's scathing reply in denial of Mr. Bryan's published charges relative to Underwood's attitude toward iron and steel in his tariff bill. He had a fiery debate with Representative Richmond Pearson Hobson over the liquor question, I believe, and a personal encounter was imminent. He made an indignant and vigorous speech in the senate, and demanded an investigation by the judiciary committee, in response to the suggestion that his Muscle Shoals bill was intended to favor the Alabama Power company. An outstanding parliamentary achievement of Senator Underwood's was his adroit and successful management of the filibuster against the Dyer anti-lynching bill.—John T. Boifeuillet in the Atlanta Journal.

NEW YORK TIMES
MAR 18 1927

Delaware House Passes Bill To Allow Lynching Damage

Special to The New York Times.

DOVER, Del., March 17.—A bill against lynching submitted by Representative Davis was passed by the House this afternoon with but three dissenting votes. The bill provides that the State shall be subject to damages up to $1,000 to the widow or minor children of a person lynched.

The measure also provides penalties against members of mobs, whether they commit violence or not, ranging up to $1,000 fine and imprisonment for twelve months, and declares the members of a mob guilty of a felony and subject to imprisonment.

Senator Latchum has a similar bill in the Senate.

Lynchings-1927
N.A.A.C.P. Reports on.

2492

Encouraging

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE reports 16 lynchings for the year of 1927 and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People reports 21. Though varying, both figures are encouraging when compared with the 30 lynchings of 1926.

THE BEST feature of the report is that 42 attempted lynchings were prevented by individual officers of the law, and in 18 instances the mobs were repelled by militia. Thus, for the 16 or 21 attempts that succeeded there were 60 that failed because of the vigilance and determination of the authorities. The country at large is beginning to realize the disgrace of lynching and to choose the right kind of officers to stop it.

KANSAS CITY
LAMESA, TEX., LEADER
JANUARY 3 1928

DECREASE SHOWN IN LYNCHINGS IN 1927

Tuskegee

New York, Dec. 30—The national association for the advancement of colored people Thursday made a public survey showing a decrease in the number of lynchings from thirty-four in 1926 to twenty-one in 1927.

Seven men were lynched in Mississippi this year, the report showed, three in Tennessee and Arkansas, two in Florida, one on the Kentucky-Virginia border and one each in Louisiana, Missouri, North Carolina, Texas and California. All but two of the victims were negroes.

BUFFALO, N. Y.
Courier
JAN 3 1928

OUR LYNCHING RECORD

According to figures compiled by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the number of lynchings in this country declined from 34 in 1926 to 21 in 1927.

So marked a decrease naturally encourages one to feel that we progressed considerably in civilization in the last year. But we can not have much to be really proud about until our lynching record has been brought much nearer to the vanishing point.

Of the 21 persons put to death by lynch law in the last twelve months, all but two were negroes. Seven of the lynchings took place in Mississippi, three each in Tennessee and Arkansas, two in Florida and one each in Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri, North Carolina, Texas and California.

Doubtless the example of some southern states, particularly Georgia, in bringing to justice members of mobs that take the law into their own hands, has been a potent influence against lynching. Perhaps even Mississippi in 1928 will be able to benefit from this example.

MISSISSIPPI PENNANT WINNER

With the passing of the old year and the coming of the new, we receive the annual report, from two sources, of the progress of savagery in the United States. Naturally the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People differs from Tuskegee Institute. The former reports twenty-one lynchings for 1927, without benefit of legal machinery, and the latter reports seventeen! The N. A. A. C. P. report seems to be the more authentic when it includes as lynchings the beating to death of a white man in a Los Angeles jail by the inmates of a prisoner resembling that noble Nordic, William Hickman; the shooting to death of Joseph Upchurch in the enlightened community of Paris, Tenn.; the shooting by a posse of Thomas Bradshaw near the up-and-coming town of Baily, N. C.; and the drowning of Berry Allen (white), by a mob of inspired Caucasians, in the famous Suwanee River at the cultured village of Mayo, Fla.

Courier 1-7-28

The standing of the various States in the Lynching League for 1927 reads: Mississippi, seven; Tennessee, three; Arkansas, three; Florida, two; and Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri, North Carolina, Texas and California, one each. Four of the victims were wafted to Heaven in the flames of bonfires and two were burned after having been dispatched by mobs. As was to be expected, Mississippi wins the pennant hands down. No other American Commonwealth approaches the record of that glorious State in our peculiarly American pastime. The State stands alone and is doubtless proud of its record. With appropriate modesty it holds the lynching banner aloft to be viewed enviously by its sister States of dear, old Dixie. If it is last in everything else, at least it is usually first in the old Southern sport. Hard as they all tried, no other State could wrest the pennant from Mississippi. At no time during the year was its lead threatened despite the strenuous efforts of the other contestants.

Mississippi may boast of the progress that it has made otherwise during the year (if any), but the world will be more impressed by its winning of the Lynching Pennant. The news that it lynched a Negro citizen each fifty-two days during the eventful year of 1927, and that the country generally dispatched a citizen illegally every seventeen days, will probably be received with interest by the heathens in China, India and Africa who are receiving the saintly ministrations of American missionaries, and by the "backward" peoples in Haiti and Nicaragua who are being civilized and self-determined by our valiant Marines. What 1928 promises in lynchings it is impossible to ascertain at this early date, but we may rest confident that Mississippi, bulwark of Southern civilization, will be close to the top of the list

CORSICANA, TEX., SUN
DECEMBER 29, 1927

LYNCHINGS SHOW DECREASE DURING YEAR NOW CLOSING

KANSAS CITY

By Associ

New York, Dec. 29.—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People today made public a survey showing a decrease in the number of lynchings from 34 in 1926 to 21 in 1927.

Seven men were lynched in Mississippi this year, the report showed, three in Tennessee and Arkansas, two in Florida and one each on the Kentucky-Virginia border, Louisiana, Missouri, North Carolina, Texas and California. All but two of the victims were negroes.

KANSAS CITY

LUBBOCK TEX. JOURNAL
DECEMBER 29, 1927

Lynchings Decline Negro Ass'n Says

NEW YORK, Dec. 29 (AP)—The national association for the advancement of colored people today made public a survey showing a decrease in the number of lynching from 34 in 1926 to 21 in 1927.

Seven men were lynched in Mississippi this year, the report showed, three in Tennessee and Arkansas, two in Florida and one each in Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri, North Carolina, Texas and California. All but two of the victims were negroes.

KANSAS CITY
Wash Dillman
DECEMBER 29, 1927
29

DECREASE IN NUMBER OF LYNCHINGS NOTED

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Abilene Reporter
12-30-27

Lynching Total Shows Decline

(By The Associated Press)

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People Thursday made public a survey showing a decrease in the number of lynchings from 34 in 1926 to 21 in 1927.

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PARIS, TEX., NEWS
DECEMBER 29, 1927

DECREASE IN NUMBER OF LYNCHINGS SHOWN

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1927 LYNCHINGS TOTAL 21, SAYS N.A.A.C.P.; TUSKEGEE COUNTS 16

KANSAS CITY, MO., CALL
JANUARY 13, 1928

Mississippi Leads the Pack With Seven Killings; Missouri Keeps in the Running With One

NEW YORK.—A decrease in the number of lynchings from 34 in the year 1926 to 21 in the year 1927 is reported by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Mississippi leads with seven victims of lynching mobs, Tennessee and Arkansas each having a record of three lynchings, Florida two, and the following states each having had one: Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri, North Carolina, Texas and California.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People differs from Tuskegee in including as lynchings the beating to death by prisoners in a Los Angeles jail of a white man resembling the kidnaper, William Hickman; the shooting to death by a posse of Joseph Upchurch in Paris, Tennessee; and the shooting by a posse of Thomas Bradshaw near Bailey, North Carolina.

Besides the white prisoner beaten to death in Los Angeles jail, one other white man, Berry Allen, is reported to have been seized by a mob at Mayo, Florida, and thrown into the Suwanee river while being conveyed to a hospital after a fight with a range rider and deputy sheriff.

Of the victims lynched, four were burned alive and the bodies of two others were publicly burned after death. Three of the mob victims were taken from peace officers and jails in Mississippi and one each in Arkansas, Florida, Missouri, Louisiana, Tennessee and Texas. Of the 21 victims only 4 were accused of attack upon a white woman.

A statement from Principal R. R. Moton of Tuskegee, said:

"I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1927 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

"There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

"All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were—murder 7, attempted murder 2, rape 2, attempted rape 3, improper conduct 1, charge not reported 1.

TOPEKA KS PLAIN DEALER
JANUARY 6, 1928

21 LYNCHINGS IN 1927 N. A. A. C. P. REPORTS

Decrease From 34 Recorder Last Year

Mississippi Leads With 7 Mob Victims

New York, Dec. 30—A decrease in the number of lynchings from 34 in the year 1926 to 21 in the year 1927 is reported by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 69, Fifth Avenue.

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Marshall Tex Messenger
12-29-27

TEXAS HAS BUT ONE LYNCHING IN 1927

NEW YORK, Dec. 29. (AP).—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People today made public a survey showing a decrease in the number of lynchings from 34 in 1926 to 21 in 1927.

Seven men were lynched in Mississippi this year, the report showed, three in Tennessee and Arkansas, two in Florida and one each in Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri, North Carolina, Texas and California. All but two of the victims were negroes.

DALLAS TEX. TIMES HERALD
DECEMBER 29, 1927

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BROWNWOOD, TEX., BULLETIN
DECEMBER 29, 1927

LYNCHING DECREASES

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NEW YORK EVE. POST
DEC 29 1927

LYNCHINGS FEWER, ASSOCIATION SAYS

Drop From 34 to 21 Shown in Year—Mississippi Leads With Seven

A decrease in the number of lynchings from thirty-four in the yea1926 to twenty-one this year is reported by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 69 Fifth Avenue.

Mississippi leads with seven victims of lynching mobs, Tennessee and Arkansas each having a record of three lynchings, Florida two, and Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri, North Carolina, Texas and California each had one.

The National Association differs from Tuckegee in including as lynchings the beating to death by prisoners in a Los Angeles jail of a white man resembling the kidnaper, William Hickman; the shooting to death by a posse of Joseph Upchurch in Paris, Tenn., and the shooting by a posse of Thomas Bradshaw, near Bailey, N. C.

Beside the white prisoner beaten to death in Los Angeles jail, one other white man, Berry Allen, is reported to have been seized by a mob at Mayo, Fla., and thrown into the Suwanee River while being conveyed to a hospital after a fight with a range rider and deputy sheriff.

Of the victims lynched, four were burned alive and the bodies of two others were publicly burned after death. Three of the mob victims were taken from peace officers and jails in Mississippi and one each in Arkansas, Florida, Missouri, Louisiana, Tennessee and Texas. Of the twenty-one victims, four were accused of attack upon a white woman.

Lynchings. 1927
N. A. A. C. P., Reports on.

2493

Courier
Pittsburgh Pa.
1/14/28.

MISSISSIPPI PENNANT WINNER

With the passing of the old year and the coming of the new, we receive the annual report, from two sources, of the progress of savagery in the United States. Naturally the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People differs from Tuskegee Institute. The former reports twenty-one lynchings for 1927, without benefit of legal machinery, and the latter reports seventeen. The N. A. A. C. P. report seems to be the more authentic when it includes as lynchings the beating to death of a white man in a Los Angeles jail by the inmates of a prisoner resembling that noble Nordic, William Hickman; the shooting to death of Joseph Upchurch in the enlightened community of Paris, Tenn.; the shooting by a posse of Thomas Bradshaw near the up-and-coming town of Baily, N. C.; and the drowning of Berry Allen (white), by a mob of inspired Caucasians, in the famous Suwanee River at the cultured village of Mayo, Fla.

The standing of the various States in the Lynching League for 1927 reads: Mississippi, seven; Tennessee, three; Arkansas, three; Florida, two; and Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri, North Carolina, Texas and California, one each. Four of the victims were wafted to Heaven in the flames of bonfires and two were burned after having been dispatched by mobs. As was to be expected, Mississippi wins the pennant hands down. No other American Commonwealth approaches the record of that glorious State in our peculiarly American pastime. The State stands alone and is doubtless proud of its record. With appropriate modesty it holds the lynching banner aloft to be viewed enviously by its sister States of dear, old Dixie. If it is last in everything else, at least it is usually first in the old Southern sport. Hard as they all tried, no other State could wrest the pennant from Mississippi. At no time during the year was its lead threatened despite the strenuous efforts of the other contestants.

Mississippi may boast of the progress that it has made otherwise during the year (if any), but the world will be more impressed by its winning of the Lynching Pennant. The news that it lynched a Negro citizen each fifty-two days during the eventful year of 1927, and that the country generally dispatched a citizen illegally every seventeen days, will probably be received with interest by the heathens in China, India and Africa who are receiving the saintly ministrations of American missionaries, and by the "backward" peoples in Haiti and Nicaragua who are being civilized and self-determined by our valiant Marines. What 1928 promises in lynchings it is impossible to ascertain at this early date, but we may rest confident that Mississippi, bulwark of Southern civilization. will be close to the top of the list.

Statistics Show 21 Lynchings in 1927

New York, Jan. 6. — Lynchings dropped from 34 in 1926 to 21 in 1927, according to statistics released Thursday by an interracial organization with headquarters in this city. Seven men were lynched in Mississippi this year, the report showed; three in Tennessee and Arkansas, two in Florida, and one each in the Kentucky-Virginia border, Louisiana, Missouri, North Carolina, Texas and California.

LYNCHING IN 1927 SUBSIDES, REPORT

NEW YORK, Jan. 4—In a recent report made public by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, it was disclosed that the number of lynchings this year are considerably less than in 1926. The survey showed that 34 were lynched in 1926 and 21 in 1927. Seven men were lynched in Mississippi, the report showed; three in Tennessee, three in Arkansas, two in Florida and one each in the Kentucky-Virginia border, Louisiana, Missouri, North Carolina, Texas and California. All except two of the victims were colored people.

LYNCHING SURVEY SHOWS DECREASE DURING LAST YEAR

New York, December 29.—(AP)—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People today made public a survey, showing a decrease in the number of lynchings from 34 in 1926 to 21 in 1927.

Seven men were lynched in Mississippi this year, the report showed; three in Tennessee and Arkansas, two in Florida and one each in Louisiana, Missouri, North Carolina, Texas and California, and on the Kentucky-Virginia border. All but two of the victims were negroes.

21 LYNCHINGS IN 1927 N. A. A. C. P. REPORTS

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Mississippi leads with seven victims of lynching mobs, Tennessee and Arkansas each having a record of three lynchings. Florida two. The following States each having had one: Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri, North Carolina, Texas and California.

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Besides the white prisoner beaten to death in Los Angeles jail, one other white man, Berry Allen, is reported to have been seized by a mob at Mayo, Florida, and thrown into the Swanee River while being conveyed to a hospital after a fight with a range rider and deputy sheriff.

Of the victims lynched four were burned alive and the bodies of two others were publicly burned after death. Three of the mob victims were taken from peace officers and jails in Mississippi and one each in Arkansas, Florida, Missouri, Louisiana, Tennessee and Texas. Of the 21 victims only 4 were accused of attack upon a white woman.

BULLETIN
NORWICH, CONN.
DEC 30 1927

LYNCHING DECLINES

According to records which have been kept by the National Association for the Advance of Colored People a decided change for the better has taken place during the year in regard to lynching. Where there were 34 cases in 1926 there have been but 21 in the present year. This is a movement in the right direction but whether it represents anything more than the swing of the pendulum from high one year to low the next is a question which time alone will answer.

Whether it represents such a change that it can be expected to continue or not, there is always cause for satisfaction when such an improvement is shown. For some time a different attitude has been manifested in the lynching states. Some of the former leaders are conspicuous by their absence or their very low score. This represents a change for the better, a response to the better sentiment of such commonwealths and marks a decided contrast to former conditions and the situation which prevails in other states.

This year Mississippi is the leader in the lynching states with seven to its discredit. There a disregard for law has developed which is deplorable. It isn't a lynching it is a flogging that places the state in disgrace before the rest of the nations and carries with it a reflection upon the whole country. Perhaps in time Mississippi will be brought to a realization of its grave mistake, even as Georgia was, but it is certain that it cannot come any too soon if the law of the state is going to amount to anything and that commonwealth expects to keep the respect of the others.

Nothing spurs on the efforts for a national law against lynching more than the wholesale manner in which it is tolerated in Mississippi.

No Lynchings In Georgia In 1927— Now Let Justice Become Color Blind.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People today made public a survey showing a decrease in the number of lynchings from 34 in 1926 to 21 in 1927. All but two of the victims were Negroes.

The report did not reveal any lynchings in Georgia.—From an Associated Press dispatch, Nov. 29.

Laws that are made for the special privilege of one class of citizens or officers of the law who fail to protect the rights of any group of citizens, are both out of place in a modern democratic commonwealth.

Every thoughtful person knows that in Georgia the Negro charged with an offense is still usually given less consideration than the white man simiarly charged. With the black man before the bar, the eyes of justice often hypocritically squint. Yet the black man before the bar is a citizen until he has been proved guilty; and until he has been proved guilty—and even afterward in the prison camp, prison or reformatory—his rights as a human being should be rigidly respected. In Georgia, in the South, and in other sections, still too frequently, the rights of the Negro are either half heartedly respected or else completely ignored.

Lynching used to be a frequent crime in Georgia. All too recently not a year passed without half a dozen or more cases in which mobs, almost invariably made up in major part of the most undesirable elements in a community, spent the force of their sadistic jungle passions upon some Negro accused, but not always correctly, of a grave offense. Always afterward there were a few good citizens to protest. Mostly, the average citizen soon buried his uncomfortable feeling of guilt and shame in forgetfulness.

We have moved away from that kind of lawlessness in Georgia. The record of no lynchings in 1927 is one of which every good Georgian, in view of the past, may with reason be generously proud. The next step for Georgians to take is to insure that when a prisoner approaches the bar, the scales of justice shall not be permitted to weigh his color.

German Magazine Quotes Facts on Lynchings Here

New York, April 8.—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 69 Fifth Ave., has received a copy of the Menschenrechte (Rights of Mankind) published in Berlin, Germany, and containing an article on lynching [illegible] derived from lynching facts and statistics published by the N. A. A. C. P.

SUN
BALTIMORE, MD.
DEC 30 1927

Mississippi Still Leads.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has made public its survey of lynchings for the year 1927. According to these figures there has been a decline to twenty-one from the thirty-four lynchings in 1926.

Geographically the lynchings cover a wide area. There was one each in Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri, North Carolina, Texas and California. There were two in Florida and three each in Tennessee and Arkansas.

It remained for Mississippi to prove what can be done when you put your mind to it. There the total number of lynchings is recorded as seven, or over twice as many as have been credited to her nearest competitors.

In lynchings Mississippi still leads.

NEWS
Lenoir, N. C.
JAN 5 1928

LYNCHING IN DECREASE

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Somerset, Ky., Commonwealth
JAN 4 1928

21 LYNCHED IN 1927.

New York, Jan. 2.—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People today made public a survey showing a decrease in the number of lynchings from 34 in 1926 to 21 in 1927. Mississippi led in lynchings, with seven.

All but two of the victims were negroes. One of the lynchings took place in Ken-

LYNCHINGS FOR 1926

(From The Nation)

Lynchings for 1926 almost doubled those of 1925—34 and 18 are the official figures given out by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. The Association traces this disheartening increase in mob violence to the defeat of the Federal anti-lynching bill; until punishment for lynching is taken out of the hands of irresponsible local authorities we seem doomed to suffer the humiliation of being the only country in the world in which the account of a mob murder is hardly news. At the same time there are bright spots in the process of adjusting race differences; for example, there were 33 cases last year of officers of the law who prevented lynching, and 29 of them were in the South. These instances further discredit the myth of the sheriff who is "overpowered" by the mob. Again, in Natitoches, Louisiana, even white public sentiment is being aroused against a statue which was recently erected to "do honor" to the Negro; it is inscribed, "The Good Darky of Louisiana. Erected by the City of Natitoches, in grateful recognition of the arduous and faithful service of the good darkies of Louisiana." The figure is of a typical "Uncle Tom," the bent, shuffling, subservient old Negro who was so dear to the heart of the old South. South and North a change is coming—a Southern white lady was recently fined $50 in a Chicago court for calling a Pullman porter a "Nigger."

Nation, January 19, 1927

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Nation 1/19/27

THIRTY-FOUR persons were lynched in the United States in 1926. Florida leads the roll of dishonor with nine. Texas is next with five and Mississippi third with four. Arkansas, South Carolina and Georgia had three each; Louisiana and Tennessee two each, and Kentucky, New Mexico and Virginia, one each. Contrary to popular supposition, not all the victims of mob passion were Negroes accused of cr[illegible] women. Th[illegible] were white, one was an Indian, two were Negro women. Three persons were killed for a murder a year old, after one of them had been ordered acquitted by a judge and the other two were in the course of being retried; three others were killed "in revenge" for a crime they had not committed; one was shot by white officers while manacled. We do not propose to exhibit any mock surprise at the continuance of lynching, but should like to ask two questions: Is the South proud of this record? And if not, does it see any other way out than enactment of a federal anti-lynching bill?

VIRGINIAN-PILOT
NORFOLK, VA.
JAN 3 1927

A Discouraging Lynching Record

From the inventory of the South's achievements in 1926 must not be omitted its retrogade 1926 achievement in lynching. Twenty-nine persons were put to death by mobs. That is the worst record since 1923, which had 33 lynchings. In 1924 the number of lynchings was the lowest in forty years—exactly 16. With the publication of these figures there was born the hope that the South would soon celebrate a lynchless year. But the record of 1925 showed that this hope was premature. In that year, according to the Tuskegee record, the lynchings numbered 10 again; according to the figures of the National Association for Advancement of Colored People they numbered 18. Now comes 1926 with 29. The lynchless year is not yet.

The record appears all the more disgraceful when it is remarked that 20 of the persons lynched were snatched from the hands of the law—eight from jails and 12 from officers of the law outside of jails. As to these, then, not even the charge that the people had to act to make good the tardiness of the law is admissible. The law was in full functioning. The accused persons were in its custody and headed for trial. In the case of one individual there had already been a trial and acquittal on one charge, and the machinery was in motion to arraign him on another charge when he was seized and lynched. These are humiliating details to enter into the account of a twentieth century civilization, but they must be set down that the people of the South may know the full flavor of the lynching infamy and that they may the sooner rally to stamp it out.

On the credit side is to be noted the fact that in 33 instances lynchings were thwarted by officers of the law—by the removal of accused persons to places of security, by augmentation of guards and, in six instances, by the use of armed forces to repel attacking parties. Four lynchings resulted in indictments. Of the 34 persons thus before the courts, nine were sentenced to the penitentiary—eight for terms ranging from four to 20 years and one for life.

The greatest gain, perhaps, has been in the firmer crystallization of Southern public opinion against lynching and lynchers, and the wider recognition of the fact that this crime is in a peculiar sense an infamy and an affront to Southern civilization. In the discouragement produced by the new figures, this remains the chief source of comfort.

Lynchings - 1927
N.A.A.C.P., Report on.

2494

Huntsville Item
JANUARY 19, 1928

LYNCHINGS DECREASED IN 1927

A survey made by an association in New York shows a decrease in the number of lynchings in 1927 as compared with the previous year. In 1926 there were 34 lynchings in the United States; in 1927 only 21.

Seven of the persons were lynched in Mississippi, in 1927, the report shows; three in Tennessee, three in Arkansas, two in Florida, one on the Kentucky - Virginia border, and one each in Louisiana, Missouri, North Carolina, Texas and California. All but two of the victims were negroes.

Lorraine Dot Leader
JANUARY 13, 1928

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CLEVELAND (TEX.) ADVOCATE
JANUARY 12, 1928

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LAWN, TEX., ECHO
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CLAUDE, TEX., NEWS
JANUARY 13, 1928

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GOLIAD, TEX., ADVANCE GUARD
JANUARY 12, 1928

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LAMPASAS, TEX., LEADER
JANUARY 6, 1928

DECREASE SHOWN IN LYNCHINGS IN 1927

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ST. JOSEPH MO NAT'L PROTEST
JANUARY 14, 1928

21 LYNCHINGS IN 1927 N. A. A. C. P. REPORTS.

Decrease From 34 Recorded Last Year—Mississippi Leads With 7 Mob Victims.

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—A decrease in the number of lynchings from 34 in the year 1926 to 21 in the year 1927 is reported by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Mississippi leads with seven victims of lynching mobs, Tennessee, and Arkansas each having a record of three lynchings, Florida two, and the following states each having had one: Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri, North Carolina, Texas and California.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People differs from Tuskegee in including as lynchings the beating to death by prisoners in a Los Angeles jail of a white man resembling the kidnapper, William Hickman; the shooting to death by a posse of Joseph Upchurch in Paris, Tenn., and the shooting by a posee of Thomas Bradshaw near Bailey, North Carolina.

Besides the white prisoner beaten to death in Los Angeles jail, one other white man, Berry Allen, is reported to have been sized by a mob at Mayo, Florida, and thrown into the Suwanee River while being conveyed to a hospital after a fight with a range rider and deputy sheriff.

Of the victims lynched, four were bunred alive and the bodies of two others were publicly burned after death. Three of the mob victims were taken from peace officers and jails in Mississippi and one each in Arkansas, Florida, Missouri, Louisiana, Tennessee and Texas. Of the 21 victims only 4 were accused of attack upon a white woman.

Protest
ST. JOSEPH, MO., JOURNAL
JANUARY 14, 1928

21 ... REPORTS.

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Lynchings-1927
N.A.A.C.P., Reports on.

2495

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N. A. A. C. P. REPORTS

34 in 1926 Against 21 in 1927 Shows that South is a Little Less "Playful"

SO. CAR. HAS CLEAN SLATE

Of 21 Vicitms Lynched, Only 4 Were Accused of Assaulting White Women

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21 LYNCHINGS IN 1927 N. A. A. C. P. REPORTS

Decrease From 34 Recorded Last Year

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LYNCHINGS IN 1927

Again we have the gruesome barbarousness, lynchings, 17[illegible] them, says Tuskegee Institute, 4 human beings burned alive. The N. A. A. C. P. record says 21.

Of the 21 victims only 4 were given accused of attacks upon a white wo-

Twenty-one lynchings for 1927. That's the number that was recorded, and the number is just 21 too many. Until this specie of murder and contempt for the orderly processes of civilization are wiped out, American missionaries to "heathen" countries and contributors to foreign missions would do well to give some attention to converting those of a lynching mentality and morality. The one bright spot in the miserable thing is the real efforts to prevent lynching by officers of the law—their oath of office is beginning to mean something. They prevented 42 attempts at mob murder—34 in the South. The lynchees were all Negroes, save two. South Carolina presents a clean slate. May it be kept clean.

Palmetto Leader

The report for Solicitor Spigner for 1927 for Kershaw County shows that 105 persons were tried in the criminal court for that county. Of that number 47 were colored and 58 were white, including two women of each race. If criminal court records are to be taken—and they must be—Negroes are becoming more and more law abiding, while the whites are becoming more criminal. While no good citizen takes pleasure in law violation by anyone yet, it is gratifying to know that colored people are observing the law, and if the whites want to lead in the criminal courts, all right and good. Let some one please page Judge Lewis of Philadelphia

* * 1-7-28

The National Benefit Life Insurance Company of Washington D. C., has issued a calendar for 1928 that really is worthwhile. It presents an aerial view of Howard University in colors. Besides the photo of President Mordecai W. Johnson and the Secretary-Treasurer, Dr. Emmet J. Scott, the various buildings are given including Freedman's Hospital. Last year the calendar of this company showed the Presidents of Land-Grant Colleges for colored people. This Insurance Company is progressive in more ways than one and should be commended for its departure from the common variety of calendars which mean nothing in particular to the race.

Columbia, S. C.

With this issue the Palmetto Leader enters its fourth year of existence. For three years it has been visiting, weekly, thousands of homes, endeavoring to carry the news interpretations of events and encouragement in the uphill climb. Mistakes have no doubt been made, but they have been of the head and not of the heart. Criticisms have, of course, been made, but never with the idea of simply causing pain or embarrassment, and if they have not been constructive, then we have fallen short of our aim. That we have not altogether failed is evidenced by the many commendations from readers whose opinions we value. We therefore go forth into another year with courage and faith to "carry on."

LYNCHING LOOP HAD POOR YEAR;

'OLE MISS' WINS

Annual Report Records Decrease In Mob-Murders For 1927—Mississippi Replaces Florida As Pennant Winner—Texas Tied For Cellar Championship—Only Four Alleged Attacks Upon White Women Listed.

Informer

New York City.—A decrease in the numbr of lynchings from 34 in the year 1926 to 21 in the year 1927, is reported by the Nation-Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 69 Fifth Avenue.

1-7-28

Mississippi leads with 7 victims of lynching mobs, Tennessee and Arkansas each having a record of 3 lynchings, Florida 2, and the following states each having had one: Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri, North Carolina, Texas and California.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People differs from Tuskegee in including as lynchings the beating to death by prisoners in a Los Angeles jail of a white man resembling the kidnapper, William Hickman; the shooting to death by a posse of Joseph Upchurch in Paris Tennessee; and the shooting by a posse of Thomas Bradshaw near Bailey, North Carolina.

Besides the prisoner beaten to death in Los Angeles jail, one other white man, Berry Allen, is reported to have been seized by a mob at Mayo, Florida, and thrown into the Suwanee River, while being conveyed to a hospital after a fight with a range rider and deputy sheriff.

Of the victims lynched, four were burned alive and the bodies of two others were publicly burned after death. Three of the mob victims were taken from peace officers and jails in Mississippi and one each in Arkansas, Florida, Missouri, Louisiana, Tennessee and Texas. Of the 21 victims only 4 were accused of attacks upon a white woman.

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A statement from Principal R. R. Moton of Tuskegee, said:

"I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1927 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

"There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynch-

1927 LYNCHINGS TOTAL 21, SAYS N. A. A. C. P.; TUSKEGEE COUNTS 16

Mississippi Leads the Pack With Seven Killings; Missouri Keeps in the Running With One

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Pal. Leader

lings. 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

"All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were—murder 7, attempted murder 2, rape 2, attempted rape 3, improper conduct 1, charge not reported 1.

N. A. A. C. P. Record

LYNCHING - 1927

CHRONOLOGICAL LIST

February 1: Willis, Texas: (New York Times, February 3) -Tom Payne was taken from two officers by an unmasked mob of white men near Willis and hanged to a tree. Payne had been arrested and charged with assault to murder in connection with an attack on a white sawmill worker. Fearing mob violence Payne was being taken by two officers to Huntsville for safe keeping when they were surrounded by a mob and disarmed.

March 19: Mayo, Fla: (Florence, S.C. Review, March 20) - Berry Allen (White) is reported to have been seized by a mob and thrown into the Suwanee River while being taken to a hospital suffering from wounds sustained when his barricaded home was dynamited by a sheriffs's posse after he had shot and killed Will Brock, a range rider, and seriously wounded a deputy sheriff.

May 4: Little Rock, Arkansas: (New York Times, May 5, 1927) -John Carter, accused of assault on a white woman and her daughter, with an iron bar, as they rode along the road near the city, was hanged by a mob, after which his body was dragged behind an automobile through the main street, then saturated with gasoline and burned at one of the principal corners in the Negro section.

" 20: Macon, Miss:(Washington Post, May 21, 1927) - Dan Anderson, alleged tp have confessed that he killed a young white farmer, was lynched by a mob which took him from officers. More than 200 shots were fired into his body.

" 22: Braggadocio, Mo: (N.Y.Evining Post, May 23) -Will Sherod was lynched after an alleged criminal assault on a white woman. He was strung up by the hands to a temporary scaffold in the town square and his body pierced with bullets. He had been taken from jail.

" 25: Leakesville, Miss: (Mobile, Ala., Register) Bernice Rasberry (Ed Lively) was taken from jail by a masked band of about 100 men and strung up to a tree. His body was then riddled with bullets. He had been arrested on a charge of beating a board bill, after which the sheriff was informed that he was wanted at Bothwell, Miss., for alleged improper conduct with a white woman.

June 13: Louisville, Miss, (New York Times, June 14) -Jim and Mark Fox, brothers, accused of having slain Clarence Nichols, a sawmill superintendent, were seized by a mob, paraded through the streets and then taken a short distance from town, where they were tied to a telephone post, saturated with gasoline, and burned to death. The men were taken from officers who were taking them to Jackson, Miss., for safe keeping.

" 16: Helena, Ark: (Philadelphia Tribune, June 16) - Owen Fleming was shot to death by a posse of 200 whites. He was charged with killing a white man who tried to force him to work while sick.

" 17: Paris, Tenn:(New York Times, June 18,) -Joseph Upchurch who shot and killed Sheriff T.D. Caldwell when the latter attempted to arrest him, was shot to death by a posse of about 50 men. The cabin were Upchurch had been placed by a deputy sheriff was riddled with bullets.

July 7: Yazoo City, Miss:(New York Times, July 8) The Bullet ridden body of Joe Smith, alleged to have attempted an attack on a young white girl, was found hanging to a tree.

 N. A. C. P. Record

Lynching -1927

July 21: Chiefland, Fla: (Bronson, Fla., News, July 22) Alber Williams was shot to death by a mob charged with assault on a turpentine operator. Thetrouble is said to have arisen over a debt which Williams owed the white man.

August _: Bailey, N.C. (Chicago Whip, August 20) Thomas Bradshaw accused of a statutory offense escaped from police officers and was chased for three days by foxhounds until he was exhausted. As he emerged from the woods with the hounds at his heels, he was shot to death by a posse of armed men.

" 26: Wilmot, Ark: (New York World, August 27) -Winston Pounds was taken from a posse of deputy sheriffs and hanged to a tree one and a half miles from Wilmot, charged with having attacked a young married woman.

September 28: Memphis, Tenn: The bullet-ridden body of Thomas Williams alleged to have attacked a fifty-year-old white woman, was found in Pleasant Union Churchyard, two miles from the scene of the crime.

November 13: Columbia, Tenn: Henry Choate, 18 years old, was taken from jail by a band of 250 men and hanged from the second story window of the court house building. two miles from the scene of the crime.

" 30: Whitesburg, Ky: Leonard Woods, alleged slayer of a mine foreman, was lynched by a mob said to have been composed of citizens of Kentucy and Virginia. After hanging the Negro, the mob fired many shots into his body.

December 22: Los Angeles, Calif: Ralph McCoy (white) bearing a resemblance to William Hickman who was being sought for murder of a white girl, was beaten to death by prisoners when taken to the city jail.

N. A. A. C. P. Record

LYNCHING RECORD FOR 1927.

NAME	DATE	PLACE	Manner of Lynching.
1. Tom Payne	Feb. 1	Willis, Texas	Hanged.
2. Berry Allen(white)	Mar. 19	Mayo, Fla	Drowned.
3. John Carter	May 4	Little Rock,Ark	Hanged (Burned) body
4. Dan Anderson	May 20	Macon, Miss	Shot
5. Will Sherod	May 22	Braggadocio, Mo	Hanged and shot
6. Ed Lively	May 25	Leakesville, Miss	Hanged and shot
7. Jim Fox	June 13	Louisville, Miss	Burned
8. Mark Fox	June 13	Louisville, Miss,	Burned
9. Owen Fleming	June 16	Helena, Ark	Shot
10. Joseph Upchurch	June 17	Paris, Tenn	Shot
11. Joe Smith	July 7	Yazoo City, Miss	Hanged and shot
12. Alber Williams	July 21	Chiefland, Fla	Shot
13. Thomas Bradshaw	August __	Bailey, N.C	Shot
14. Winston Pounds	August 26	Wilmot, Ark	Hanged
15. Thomas Williams	September 28	Barrettville, Tenn	Shot
16. Henry Choate	Nov. 13	Columbia, Tenn	Hanged
17. Leonard Woods	Nov. 30	Whitesburg, Ky	Hanged and shot body burned.
18. Ralph McCoy (white)	Dec. 22	Los Angeles, Calif	Beaten to death.

SUMMARY BY STATES.

Arkansas.....3

California.....1 (White)

Florida.....2 (1 white)

Kentucky.....1

Mississippi.....5

Missouri.....1

North Carolina.....1

Tennessee.....3

Texas.....1

Total.....18

Alleged Offenses

Murder.....7 (1 White)

Assault to Murder.....3

Attacking white women.....4

Attempted attack on white woman.....1

Improper conduct with white woman.....1

"Statutory offense".....1

Mistaken Identity.....1 (white)

Total.....18

Manner of Lynching

Shot 6

Hanged.....4 (1 body burned)

Hanged and shot.....4 (1 body burned)

Burned.....2

Drowned.....1 (white)

Beaten to death.....1 (white)

Total..... 18

N A A C P

Taken from Peace officers and Jails.

Arkansas.....1	Missouri.....1
Florida.....1	Tennessee.....1
Mississippi.....3	Texas.....1
	Total.....

SYMPOSIUM OF EDITORIAL OPINIONS FROM THE WHITE PRESS ON THE LYNCHING RECORD OF 1927

-I-

(From The Columbus, Ga., Enquirer-Sun, Jan. 2, 1928)

NO LYNCHINGS IN GEORGIA IN 1927 -- NOW LET JUSTICE BECOME COLOR BLIND

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People today made public a survey showing a decrease in the number of lynchings from 34 in 1926 to 21 in 1927. All but two of the victims were Negroes.

The report did not reveal any lynchings in Georgia - From an Associated Press dispatch, Dec. 29.

Laws that are made for the special privilege of one class of citizens or officers of the law who fail to protect the rights of any group of citizens, are both out of place in a modern democratic commonwealth.

Every thoughtful person knows that in Georgia the Negro charged with an offense is still usually given less consideration than the white man similarly charged. With the black man before the bar, the eyes of justice often hypocritically squint. Yet the black man before the bar is a citizen until he has been proved guilty; and until he has been proved guilty -- and even afterward in the prison camp, prison or reformatory -- his rights as a human being should be rigidly respected. In Georgia, in the South, and in other sections, still too frequently, the rights of the Negro are either half-heartedly respected or else completely ignored.

Lynching used to be a frequent crime in Georgia. All too recently not a year passed without half a dozen or more cases in which mobs, almost invariably made up in major part of the most undesirable elements in a community, spent the force of their sadistic jungle passions upon some Negro accused, but not always correctly, of a grave offense. Always afterward there were a few good citizens to protest. Mostly, the average citizen soon buried his uncomfortable feeling of guilt and shame in forgetfulness.

We have moved away from that kind of lawlessness in Georgia. The record of no lynchings in 1927 is one of which every good Georgian, in view of the past, may with reason be generously proud. The next step for Georgians to take is to insure that when a prisoner approaches the bar, the scales of justice shall not be permitted to to weigh his color.)

-II-

(From The Buffalo, N. Y., Courier-Express, Jan. 3, 1928)

OUR LYNCHING RECORD

According to figures compiled by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the number of lynchings in this country declined from 34 in 1926 to 21 in 1927.

So marked a decrease naturally encourages one to feel that we progressed considerably in civilization in the last year. But we can not have much to be really proud about until our lynching record has been brought much nearer to the vanishing point.

Of the 21 persons put to death by lynch law in the last twelve months, all but two were Negroes. Seven of the lynchings took place in Mississippi, three each in Tennessee and Arkansas, two in Florida and one each in Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri, North Carolina, Texas and California.

Doubtless the example of some Southern States, particularly Georgia, in bringing to justice members of mobs that take the law into their own hands, has been a potent influence against lynching. Perhaps even Mississippi in 1928 will be able to benefit from this example.

-III-

(From The Baltimore, Md., Evening Sun, Dec. 30, 1927)

MISSISSIPPI STILL LEADS

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has made public its survey of lynchings for the year 1927. According to these figures, there has been a decline to twenty-one from the thirty-four lynchings in 1926.

Geographically the lynchings cover a wide area. There was one each in Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri, North Carolina, Texas and California. There were two in Florida and three each in Tennessee and Arkansas.

It remained for Mississippi to prove what can be done when

(Continued Page 4)

you put your mind to it. There the total number of lynchings is recorded as seven, or over twice as many as have been credited to her nearest competitors.

In lynchings Mississippi still leads.

-IV-

(From The Norwich, Conn., Bulletin, Dec. 30, 1927)

LYNCHING DECLINES

According to records which have been kept by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People a decided change for the better has taken place during the year in regard to lynching. Where there were 34 cases in 1926 there have been but 21 in the present year. This is a movement in the right direction but whether it represents anything more than the swing of the pendulum from high one year to low the next is a question which time alone will answer.

Whether it represents such a change that it can be expected to continue or not, there is always cause for satisfaction when such an improvement is shown. For some time a different attitude has been manifested in the lynching states. Some of the former leaders are conspicuous by their absence or their very low score. This represents a change for the better, a response to the better sentiment of such commonwealths and marks a decided contrast to former conditions and the situation which prevails in other states.

This year Mississippi is the leader in the lynching states with seven to its discredit. There a disregard for law has developed which is deplorable. If it isn't a lynching it is a flogging that places the state in disgrace before the rest of the nations and carries with it a reflection upon the whole country. Perhaps in time Mississippi will be brought to a realization of its grave mistake, even as Georgia was, but it is certain that it cannot come any too soon if the law of the state is going to amount to anything and that commonwealth expects to keep the respect of the others. Nothing spurs on the efforts for a national law against lynching more than the wholesale manner in which it is tolerated in Mississippi.

-V-

(From The Columbia, S. C., Record, Jan. 3, 1928)

21 LYNCHINGS TOO MANY

A survey total just broadcast by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People on this New Year's Eve discloses that there has been a decrease in the number of lynchings in the United States from thirty-four in 1926 to twenty-one in 1927.

Seven men were lynched in Mississippi during the year just ended; three each in Arkansas and Tennessee; two in Florida, and one each in Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri, North Carolina, Texas and California.

All but two of the victims were Negroes. While this showing is somewhat better than it was the year before it is still a national scandal. California alone is out of the Southern belt, or the nearby Southern border. The disclosure is a rebuke to the hypocrisy of the States which boast they stand for law and order.

-VI-

(From The Dallas, Texas, Journal, Dec. 31, 1927)

LYNCHING RECORD FOR THE YEAR

The year just closing can die with a less burdened conscience in view of an improvement of the record of lynchings as compared to that of 1926. The report which has been made by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People shows that the number of lynchings this year was twenty-one as compared to thirty-four in the preceding year. That lesser number represents just twenty-one too many, however, and this Nation will never wholly justify its claim of being civilized until the crime of lynching has been utterly stamped out.

Public opinion speaking through the justice-loving majority, has undoubtedly exerted great influence to prevent lynchings in the last few years. It has given Sheriffs and members of the constabulary the courage to oppose the will of the mob, and a report of the cases in which officers have done their duty and mobs have been foiled would properly tie in with the report on the fewer lynchings of the year.

This same public opinion will become more assertive, now that it has been fully aroused by evidence that it has borne good fruit, and an even more appreciable reduction may be hoped for from year to year until the lawless, Nation-shaming practice has been stamped out for good.

Lynchings-1927
Prevented

Alabama.

2501

CHAMBERS COUNTY SHERIFF WOUNDED BY NEGRO'S BULLET

John W. Lane Suffers Pistol Shot Through Mouth While Attempting to Arrest Black Near Five Points

DISTURBANCE AT CHURCH STARTS SHOOTING AFFAIR

Prisoner Transferred to Opelika Jail For Safe Keeping; Situation Quiet

LAFAYETTE, ALA., April 10.—Special to The Advertiser.—Sheriff John W. Lane of Chambers county and Luther Moreman of Five Points suffered severe wounds, when an attempt was made to arrest Bob Williams, a negro, who is said to have started a disturbance at a negro church near Five Points this afternoon. The negro was wounded in the exchange of shots when a negro picked up the sheriff's pistol and fired on the alleged disturber.

Following the shooting the Williams negro escaped to a swamp where he was surrounded by other negroes and held at bay until former Sheriff R. G. Simpson arrived on the scene and effected a capture. The prisoner was lodged in the county jail at Opelika for safe keeping, as feeling was running high and fears were felt for his safety.

Reports from Opelika are to the effect that Sheriff Betts is prepared to protect the prisoner should an attempt be made to storm the bastile. No apprehension is felt, but the sheriff announced that he would not be taken unawares. State law enforcement officers, it is understood, have been ordered to report to the Lee county sheriff for duty if needed.

While the wounds are very painful, neither of the men are considered in a serious condition. The negro's wound, reports from Opelika state, is giving trouble and physicians advise against further moving.

According to witnesses to the affair, Sheriff Lane had been called to quell a disturbance at the negro church, caused by the antics of Williams. After leaving the church, Sheriff Lane is said to have approached the negro in an attempt to arrest him for the disturbance, when the latter opened fire upon him and his companion and then fled.

Another negro, whose name was not divulged, is said to have picked up a pistol, dropped by Sheriff Lane after he had been wounded, and emptied it at fleeing negro, one shot of which is said to have taken effect in the negro's thigh.

CHAMBERS COUNTY SHERIFF WOUNDED BY NEGRO'S BULLET

(Continued from Page One.)

Closely pursued by a band of other negroes, who reported the disturbance to Sheriff Lane, Williams was surrounded in a swamp near Five Points, and arrested by former Sheriff R. G. Simpson, who brought the negro to the county jail here, later transferring him to the Lee county jail at Opelika because of the high sentiment against him and the possible outbreak of a mob.

The bullet that wounded Sheriff Lane entered just above his mouth and passed out near the base of the jawbone, while the course of the bullet that wounded Mr. Moreman was similar except that it passed out on the opposite said from that of Sheriff Lane's and followed the same path, exiting below the ear.

The negro while confined to a cell in the LaFayette jail said that he was shot once while effecting his escape from Sheriff Lane. Lane and Moreman were taken to a house in Five Points and treated for their injuries. Conditions of the two men could not be learned, but it was expressed that they were not believed to be seriously wounded.

Lane is serving his third term as sheriff of Chambers county and this is the first time that he is reported to have had trouble in making an arrest.

TWENTY MEN WAIT MOVE FOLLOWING JACKSON REPORT

Telegram From Chief of Police Says Five Left Town to Act As Spotters For Crowd After Burley

Reinforced by six men from other prisons, twenty guards, armed with shotguns, kept watch at Kilby prison last night following receipt of reports that a mob was en route to Montgomery from Jackson, Miss., bent upon seizing Walter Burley, negro, charged with the murder of two Jackson women about two weeks ago.

According to Hamp Draper, associate member of the state board of administration, a message was received stating that five men to act as scouts for a mob had left Jackson at 10 o'clock Monday morning for Montgomery.

First intimation of mob maneuvers was received in a telegram by Sheriff John Scogin, signed J. E. Simmons, chief of police, and dated Jackson. The message was turned over to Kilby officials.

The telegram read: "Party of five left here today in cars to act as spotters for mob in Burley case."

According to Night Warden J. T. York, officials then called Jackson by telephone and the information was verified by a deputy sheriff in Jackson. The deputy said, however, that the men were to act as "spotters" to inform Mississippians when the negro was removed from Kilby to be returned to Mississippi for trial.

Mr. Draper said that Kilby prison is one of the strongest in the south, and that there was small likelihood that a mob would have success. He stated that further steps would be taken to protect the prison if the occasion arose.

At 1:30 o'clock this morning all was quiet at the prison.

CARAVAN SEEN AT BRANDON

JACKSON, MISS., June 13.—(AP)—The telephone operator at Brandon, Miss., 15 miles east of Jackson, reported tonight that a caravan of automobiles about thirty strong passed through going east this afternoon at 3:30 o'clock. They did not stop.

Police officials at Jackson denied tonight that they had called prison authorities at Kilby prison to warn them of the approach of a mob. They had no information of any such mob, they said.

At the office of the sheriff of Hinds county it was said that the sheriff was out of the city and that nothing was known of any telephone call to Montgomery.

Other towns along the route which a mob would most likely have taken reported that no unusual number of automobiles had been seen during the evening.

Chief of Police John E. Simmons, stated emphatically that he had not called any one in Montgomery tonight and that he knew nothing of any mob or scouts for a mob which had left the city.

JACKSON, MISS., June 14.—(AP)—The town marshal at York, Ala., said early this morning over long distance telephone that after a round of the city and conversations with a road worker, filling station proprietors and roadside observers, that no party such as the mob described to him had passed through that town recently. He advanced the theory that the force might have turned south near Meridian, and cut back north into Montgomery later.

Augment Burley's Guard To Prevent Mob Violence

Montgomery, Ala., June 22.—Kilby prison here, a model institution of its kind to-day was being guarded by an augmented force of officers, prepared for an eventuality following conflicting reports of a mob being en route from Jackson, Miss., to storm the prison and take Walter Burley, alleged slayer, from safe-keeping.

Hamp Draper, associate member of the state board of administration, in charge of convict affairs, last night said he was notified in a telegram from J. E. Simmons, chief of police at Jackson, that a party of men had left the city presumably to act as scouts for the mob. Draper said he later learned by telephone that the men were sent from Jackson to Montgomery to act as spies and notify their friends when the Negro leaves the prison for Jackson to be tried.

Draper said extra guards had been called in and would be kept at the prison for emergencies, while Governor Graves said he would call out the national guard if necessary to maintain order.

Authorities Profess Ignorance Of Mob Reports

Jackson authorities in dispatches from that city denied originating the mob rumor and said they had dispatched no telegrams or had no telephone conversations with local officers. They professed ignorance of the mob reports, while towns in Mississippi and Alabama, through which the mob would have to pass to reach Montgomery, reported seeing no unusual number of cars during the evening.

Burley was brought here the day after his arrest on charges of killing a mother and her daughter in their residence at Jackson. Guardsmen prevented a mob taking the prisoner as he was being whisked out of Jackson to a place of safe keeping.

SHERIFF GUARDS ALLEGED SLAYER FROM MOB

Montgomery, Ala., June 15.—Walter Burley, arrested at Jackson, Miss., for the alleged murder of two white women, arrived at the union station here at 5:40 p. m. Wednesday. He was in custody of Sheriff Pat Byrne of Mobile County, and Sheriff H. C. Noseworth, of Hattiesburg, Miss.

The train was met by Warden T. F. Shirley and Deputy Warden G. B. Johnson of Kilby prison, and Chief Law Enforcement Officers W. H. Mo.dory. Burley was immediately taken to Kilby prison by automobile and lodged in the condemned cell.

Burley was brought to Kilby prison for safe keeping after officers had outwitted several mobs in the state of Missisippi.

NEGRO TELLS STORY OF KILLING WOMEN

Entered Jackson, Miss., Home For Robbery; Brought to Capital to Escape Mob

Brought to Montgomery for safe keeping in the state penitentiary at Kilby, Walter Burley, negro, confessed slayer of two white women at Jackson, Miss., one of whom he is alleged to have assaulted, arrived here at 5:40 o'clock Monday afternoon and was rushed immediately to Kilby prison, by automobile.

As he stepped from the train, in the custody of Sheriff Pat Byrne, of Mobile, and Sheriff H. C. Norsworthy of Hattiesburg, Miss., the prisoner and the visiting officers were met by a party of Alabama prison officials, led by Hamp Draper, head of the state convict department. Under the train shed, the negro was turned over to Mr. Draper, Warden T. J. Shirley of Kilby prison, Deputy Warden G. B. Johnson and Chief Walter K. McAdory of the state law enforcement department, who took him personally in charge, walking him quickly to the waiting automobile.

The transfer to Kilby was made without mishap, and the negro was immediately lodged in one of the cells reserved for condemned prisoners.

Sheriff Byrne proceeded to Kilby with the prison officials. Sheriff Norsworthy, however, remained at the station so that he could take the first train back to Hattiesburg.

Very Nervous

Burley appeared to be very nervous after he alighted from the train. He avoided looking directly at the officers, and it was noted that his glance constantly shifted from side to side as though he were watching closely everyone who passed. Once he smiled nervously. That was when Warden Shirley removed the handcuffs from his wrists and gave them to the Mississippi sheriff, with the comment: "You can take these along with you. We don't need them. We've got him now. He won't get away." As he said this, Warden Shirley had hold of one of the negro's arms. Deputy Warden

Johnson was holding the other arm as the man was marched from the depot to the street.

From 1 o'clock Monday morning, when he arrived at Mobile accompanied by Mississippi officers who had with great difficulty avoided three different mobs that were seeking to lynch the negro, until he started for Montgomery at about noon, Burley was locked up in the county jail at Mobile.

During the morning hours, Governor Graves in compliance with a request from Sheriff Byrne of Mobile, directed that the Headquarters company, 31st infantry division, Alabama national guard at Mobile, be ordered on active duty, in order that they could cooperate with the sheriff in any emergency that might arise in connection with the negro's presence in Mobile. The guardsmen accompanied the officers and their prisoner as far as Brewton on the same train which brought him to Montgomery.

As soon as he was advised that Burley had been safely lodged in a cell at Kilby, Gov. Graves wired the governor of Mississippi to that effect, stating the negro will be held at Kilby pending the Mississippi governor's orders.

Tells of Murders

Seated on the cot in a death cell in Kilby prison—the same cot on which the last moments of Horace DeVaughn and Virgil Murphy had been spent—Walter Burley told the story of the murder of the two women.

Burley said he was 23 years old. He was born in Clynton, Miss., where he lived until 1917. He then went to Jackson, where he lived a few years before going to the delta country of Mississippi. He returned to Jackson in March of this year. In Jackson he made his home with an aunt.

He stated that he had worked on the Reese place for about a week. While there he lived in a tenant house about 50 feet from the one story house where the white family lived

Burley declared that his motive for entering the house was robbery. He said that he knew there was money in the house. His plan for robbing the place was made the day before the murder of Mrs. Reese and her sister-in-law.

The gun with which the shooting was done he said was won from another negro whose name he did not know about two weeks before the commission of the crime.

He stated that he knew that Mr. Reese was not on the place when he entered the house.

He entered the Reese home through the rear door at about six o'clock in the morning. From the pack porch he went to a kitchen which was situated at the rear of the house. He went from the kitchen to the dining room immediately in front of it and through it to the girl's room.

The door to Miss Reese's room was open, he said. She lay in the room fro mthe door through which he entered. Burley stated that she was awake as he came into the room. The covers were pulled half way over her body. She turned toward him as he came through the door.

Denies Attacking Girl

Burley shot her. He swears that he did not attack her either before or after shooting her. If the girl was attacked, he said, he knows nothing of it. He declared that he did not lay a hand upon her.

He was unable to assign a motive for killing the girl. He said, "I just did it."

Two of the three shots which he fired struck her in the abdomen. hTe third went through her neck.

After shooting her, he said, he left the room immediately. He said that he did not examine her to see if she were dead.

From the girl's room he went to a central hall which ran through the home. Mrs. Reese he said, had left her bed upon hearing the shots. He saw her as he came into the hall. She ran back to her room, where she jumped into her bed.

Hé followed her and shot her as she lay in bed.

Burley declared that he left soon after shooting her. He paused only to get a bank which he saw in the room. He went from Mrs. Reese's room to the hall, and out the hall through the rear door.

On his way out he saw only one person, a small child of the Reese family, who mhe asked if it knew him. The child, he said, told him he did not know him.

Burley left the Reese home in a Chrysler car which belonged to Mr Reese. He drove it nearly to town and abandoned it in some woods. It is there, he said, that he opened the bank and extracted the money which it contained—about six or seven dollars.

Went To Aunt's Home

He then went to town and to his aunt's home. There he put the gun away. It was at his aunt's home, he said, that he was arrested.

Burley declared that the confession which he had made to officers in Hattiesburg was a true one. It was made of his own free will and accord, he said. The officers did not threaten him in any way. He expressed appreciation for the way in which they had treated him and for their having saved him from mobs.

The mobs, he said, he did not see at all. He was taken from Jackson to Hattiesburg Sunday morning on to Luceford, Miss., Sunday afternoon, and to Mobile that night. He was kept there overnight and brought to Montgomery Monday afternoon.

"That is all theer is," Burley declared. "I killed both of them. I guess it is too late to be sorry, but I am sorry for what I have done. I have told the truth about it. If I had done any more I would be the man to tell about it. I did not attack the younger woman before I killed her or after I killed her."

NEW YORK CITY
SUN and GLOBE
JUN 14 1927

ALABAMA ON GUARD AGAINST LYNCHING

Hears Mississippi Mob Is Coming After Slayer.

MONTGOMERY, Ala., June 14 (A. P.).—Kilby prison here, a model institution of its kind, to-day was being guarded by an augmented force of officers prepared for any eventuality, after the receipt of conflictnig reports that a mob was en route from Jackson, Miss., to storm the prison and take Walter Burley, alleged slayer, from safe keeping.

Hamp Draper, associate member of the State Board of Administration, in charge of convict affairs, last night said he was notified in a telegram from J. E. Simmons, chief of police at Jackson, that a party of men had left the city, presumably to act as scouts for the mob. Draper said he later learned by telephone that the men were sent from Jackson to Montgomery to act as spies and notify their friends when the negro leaves the prison for Jackson to be tried.

Draper said extra guards had been called in and would be kept at the prison for emergencies, while Gov. Graves said he would call out the National Guard, if necessary, to maintain order.

Jackson authorities, in dispatches from that city, denied originating the mob rumor and said they had dispatched no telegrams nor had telephone conversations with local officers. They professed ignorance of the mob reports, while towns in Mississippi and Alabama, through which the mob would have to pass to reach Montgomery, reported seeing no unusual number of cars during the evening.

Burley was brought here the day after his arrest on charges of killing a mother and her daughter in their residence at Jackson. Guardsmen prevented a mob taking the negro as he was being whisked out of Jackson to a place for safe keeping.

PRISON STRENGTHENS GUARD AGAINST MOB

Rumors of Plot to Lynch Negro Conflict, but Montgomery Officials Take No Chances

MONTGOMERY, Ala., June 14 (A. P.)—Kilby Prison here, a model institution, was being guarded to-day by an augmented force of officers following conflicting reports of a mob being on its way from Jackson, Miss., to storm the prison and take Walter Burley, accused of murder, from safe-keeping.

Hamp Draper, associate member of the State Board of Administration, in charge of convict affairs, last night said he learned by telephone that men were sent from Jackson to act as spies and notify their friends when the Negro leaves the prison for Jackson to be tried.

Jackson authorities in despatches from that city denied originating the mob rumor and said they had sent no telegrams and had no telephone conversation with officers here.

Burley was brought here the day after his arrest on charges of killing a mother and her daughter in their home at Jackson. Guardsmen prevented a mob from taking the Negro as he was being hurried out of Jackson.

Thirteen Year Old Youth Narrowly Escapes Mob

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—(AN) The quick action of the officers and one citizen who believed in upholding the law and preventing mob violence, saved Hardey Cunningham, a thirteen year old lad from being lynched here Friday.

The boy was charged with having attempted to assault a twelve year old white girl.

GUARDS PRISON AS MOB IS REPORTED APPROACHING IT

Montgomery, Alabama, June 15.—Walter Burley, Negro, alleged Jackson, Mississippi, slayer, who was brought here for safe keepig, may not be safe at all. A mob of over 2,000 men are reported to have been enroute to Montgomery. An extra force is guarding the prison for fear of violence. Burley is accused of killing a mother and daughter when he made an attempt to rob them. Feeling in the Alabama city is running high.

COLORED YOUTH SOUGHT BY MOB ESCAPES WRATH

(By The Associated Negro Press)

Birmingham, Ala.—The quick action of the officers and one citizen who believed in upholding the law and preventing mob violence, saved Hardy Cunningham, a thirteen year old Negro lad, from being lynched here Friday.

The boy was charged with having attempted to assault a twelve year old white girl and when the report was circulated angry citizens assembled and were threatening to lynch the lad when the father of the girl alleged to have been attacked passed him and carried him to the jail in his automobile. When he reached the jail officers quickly indicated their intention to protect the youthful prisoner.

Hardy has been delivering ice to the home of the girl during the summer months, and on Friday he attempted to "get familiar" with the white child, which is altogether wrong in this section, especially if the female of the species happens to be white. According to the girl's story, he caught hold of her arm and tried to embrace her and she screamed. While this action would have been all right had both parties been white or colored, but since the boy was colored and the girl was white, it was ample reason for a charge of attempted assault.

Young Cunningham is being held in custody here charged with attempted rape.

OFFICERS CHEAT MOB OF VICTIM

(By the Associated Negro Press)

Tuscaloosa, Ala., Sept. 15.—The lynching party which was to have been held early Monday was postponed indefinitely when it was learned that the chief participant, John Brown, was being guarded closely by a group of heavily armed state law enforcement officers.

Brown was arrested Sunday charged with attacking a white woman down in Greensboro. The feeling was rather high down in that section so he was transferred to the jail here. Even this did not cool the ardor and determination of the bloodthirsty whites who sought to lynch him. Reports arrived here that the mob was en route five hundred strong for the purpose of taking the prison and "staging a little neck-tie party."

The jailer here decided that he would protect his prisoner and called on the law enforcement department. Immediately a strong cordon of guards was thrown around the jail and preparations for battle completed. Evidently the advance guard of the mob heard of the reception which awaited them and so reported to the "mob proper" and as stated the party was called off.

Lynchings - 1927
Prevented.

Alabama.

2500

Anniston, Ala., Star

NOV 8 1927

FEAR VIOLENCE; MOVE NEGROES TO TUSCALOOSA

Charge Three Men Overpowered and Whipped Sumter Game Warden

Livingston, Ala., Nov. 8. (LP)—Fearing mob violence, Sheriff W. T. Scales of Sumter county transferred three negro prisoners charged with tying Game Warden Jack Gordon to a tree and whipping him near Boyds, Ala, to the Tuscaloosa jail this morning.

The three negroes were caught hunting without a license and Gordon attempted to place them under arrest. Scales said.

They overpowered him, tied him to a tree and beat him severely, he said. The trio were arrested and placed in the Sumter county jail here, but when rumors of mob violence became prevalent, Scales took the prisoners to Tuscaloosa.

They are charged with assault with intent to murder.

Gordon, whose home is in York, ten miles from the scene of the attack, was still in bed today. His condition is not considered serious, unless pneumonia sets in. He was exposed for some time before he made his way to safety.

Livingston was seething with excitement when it was learned that the negroes had been brought here, but Scales had taken the men to Tuscaloosa before a mob was formed.

Boyds was the scene of the last lynching in Sumter county, some ten years ago, when a negro was taken from officers and killed, after he had cut a storekeeper who had discovered him in the midst of a robbery

Lynchings-1927 Prevented

Arkansas. 2529 2528

SHERIFF MOVES PRISONERS TO FOIL MOB

Armed Men Seek to Lynch Alleged Murderer

Little Rock, Ark., March 10.—(Special)—Fear of mob violence early last Monday night, caused Sheriff Troy Boyle of Monroe County to transfer two colored men who are held for the brutal murder of Lewis Wilson, 30, Blackton storekeeper, to the penitentiary at Little Rock for safekeeping.

Sheriff Boyle arrived at the penitentiary with Booker T. Martin, 25. Deputy Sheriff K. C. Cozart arrived an hour and a half later with Horace Catty, 3-13-27.

A mob composed of 40 or 50 armed men searched for the two men with the avowed intention of lynching them when they were spirited out of Clarendon and rushed to Little Rock, Sheriff Boyle told Warden S. L. Todhunter.

Wife Describes Tragedy

The murder occured at midnight Wednesday at Blackton, 12 miles from Clarendon. The murdered man's wife told Sheriff Boyle that two men appeared at their home and called until Mr. Wilson asked them what they wanted. They replied that they wanted some turpentine for a sick woman.

"I told Lewis not to go outside," she told officers. "and he said he would go only to the door. He took the lamp with him to the door and asked who it was calling. One of the men told him it was 'Hambone', the name by which the Martin man is known. Martin told my husband that he wanted some turpentine for a sick woman."

The woman stated that her husband left the house and a few minutes later she heard a shot. The man called for help and was found on the front poren with his head beaten into a pulp.

The investigation officers searched the scene of the crime for evidence. They found a shotgun shell similar to the ones purchased earlier in the evening by Martin from the store of the murdered man. The club with which Wilson was beaten to death was found to have been obtained from the store by the same man. The club when found was battered and broken. The man's head was mutiliated. His teeth had been knocked out, a blow from the club had torn his nose from his face and the head was otherwise disfigured.

Brave Officers Thwart Lynching

(Preston News Service).

Demott, March 31.—A lynching was averted at Halley county Tuesday afternoon by the presence of mind of Deputy Sheriff Tullous and the willingness of a Negro mother to trust her son to the deputy to be conducted through an armed mob to a waiting automobile and thence to jail in Arkansas City.

With citizens of Desh and Chicot counties aroused over the murder Sunday of Walker Head, Demott marshal, by Bud Foster news late Tuesday afternoon that Floyd Matson of Halley, seven miles east of Demott, had been clubbed to death by Dewey McKenzie, 26, fanned the wrath of a large number of local men to fever heat, and several carloads of armed men immediately set out for Halley.

Upon arrival, they learned that McKenzie had barricaded himself in his mother's home. The town was in arms and a mob was forming about McKenzie's home. Deputy Tullous arrived at the scene a few minutes later and after addressing a few words to the mob, requesting that the law be lowed to take its course, walked boldup to the house and demanded admittance.

Surrenders Son

Mrs. McKenzie appeared, badly frightened, and upon seeing Deputy Tullous, ordered her son to follow him. The deputy caught the man by the arm and escorted him through the mob to a waiting automobile and then took him to Arkansas City.

The morale of the mob was broken by the deputy's sudden appearance, his calm request and his bravery in approaching the house alone. The injured youth's uncle also begged with members of the mob to commit no violence.

The Matson boy was struck about 4 Tuesday afternoon by the McKenzie boy who used a radius rod of an automobile. He hit the youth just back of the right ear.

The cause of the trouble between Matson and McKenzie is not known. The attack took place directly in front of the Halley General store where Matson is employed.

Were Ready to Shoot

Members of the mob declare they were prepared to open fire on the house if the colored mother refused to surrender her son to the officier. They also were ready to open fire if McKenzie shot at Tullous as he approached the house.

Although feeling in this section remains intense, it is believed that unless Matson dies from his injury, McKenzie will not be molested in the Arkansas City jail.

Mob Cowers Before Officer.

While the mob was seeking to intimidate the entire McKenzie family, Deputy Sheriff Tullous appeared on the scene, admonished the bloodthirsty citizens that he "was going in for the prisoner and that the first man who made a move woul be killed instantly" and walked up to the door of the McKenzie dwelling and demanded entrance.

McKenzie's mother, seeing the officer, admitted him and he placed the son under arrest and cooly walked through the mob to a waiting automobile and spirited his prisoner to the Arkansas City jail. Deput ySheriff Tullous bears the reputation of "being a man of his word" and the would-be lynchers fell back before him as he marched through their midst with his gun in one hand and the arm of his prisoner in the other.

No Violence Feared.

The morale of the lynchers was broken by the courage of the officer and it is believed that no further attempts to take the prisoner will be made. McKenzie is charged with clubbing Floyd Matson, a white man, severely with a radius rod of an automobile. The cause of the trouble between Matson and McKenzie is not known.

Courageous Officer Defies Mob; Lynching Is Averted

Dermett, Ark., March 31.—(The Associated Negro Press).—The courage and collness of Deputy Sheriff Tullvous saved Dewey McKenzie, charged with perhaps fatally clubbing [illegible] man, from being lynched here Tuesday.

The city already aroused over the killing of a Demott marshall by Bud Foster, a Negro, when the report was circulated that McKenzie had severely beaten another white man, the feeling reached fever heat and more than two hundred armed citizens rushed to the home of the fugitive's mother, where he was barricaded, demanding that he come out "and get what was coming to him."

ites in which to disperse. After arrest of the whites followed a day of fevrish activities by two separate mobs and the sheriff and his deputies to apprehend the alleged attacker of a white girl.

Lucille Castelberry (white) reported to her father that she had been attacked by a Race man on the Camden-Smackover highway near Cullendale. A mob of whites recruited from workers at the Southern International Paper company's plant at Cullendale immediately formed and set out to find a victim. Another crowd made up of young whites also set out. In the meantime word reached Sheriff Ellis that the mobs were forming.

The first group of whites that set out met Thad Stevens on the highway and called upon him to stop, but the frightened man ran. One member of the mob fired. The bullet struck Stephens behind the ear. Sheriff Ellis arrived on the scene in time to demand the release of the prisoner, whom the girl failed to identify. The sheriff ordered his deputies to disarm and seized 15 of the leaders on charges of rioting, disturbing the peace and carrying concealed weapons. Immediately after the arrests Ellis ordered members of the mob to disperse. He then confronted another angry crowd which arrived on the scene. He made no arrests, but gave them 10 minutes in which to disperse.

The sheriff said that an intensive search is being made for the alleged assailant with an equally thorough investigation of the girl's story. Conflicting stories of the alleged attack have prompted this investigation. Stephens was given treatment at the city hospital and later removed to his home.

DIXIE SHERIFF STOPS WOULD BE LYNCHING

Fifteen Members of Mob Go to Jail

Camden, Ark., July 15.—Sheriff Arthur Ellis demonstrated here last Friday night that mob violence could be stopped when he arrested 15 members of one mob and dispersed another without serious trouble after they had shot Thad Stevens, 41 years of age. Stephens was accused of having attacked a white girl. The arrest of the men broke up one mob and the sheriff gave another 10 min-

Arkansas Officer Averts Lynching; Defies Mobocrats

(By the Associated Negro Press.)

Dermott, Ark.,—The courage and coolness of Deputy Sheriff Tullous saved Dewey McKenzie, charged with perhaps fatally clubbing a white man, from being lynched here Tuesday.

The city already aroused over the killing of a Dermott marshal by Bud Foster, a Negro, when the report was circulated that McKenzie had severely beaten another white man, the feeling reached fever heat and more than two hundred armed citizens rushed to the home of the fugitive's mother, where he was barricaded, demanding that he come out "and get what was coming to him."

MOB COWERS BEFORE OFFICER.

While the mob was seeking to intimidate the entire McKenzie family, Deputy Sheriff Tullous appeared on the scene, admonished the bloodthirsty citizens that he "was going in for the prisoner and that the first man who made a move would be killed instantly" and walked up to the door of the McKenzie dwelling and demanded entrance.

McKenzie's mother, seeing the officer, admitted him and he placed the son under arrest and coolly walked through the mob to a waiting automobile and spirited his prisoner to the Arkansas City jail. Deputy Sheriff Tullous bears the reputation of "being a man of his word" and the would-be lynchers fell back before him as he marched through their midst with his gun in one hand and the arm of his prisoner in the other.

NO VIOLENCE FEARED.

The morale of the lynchers w

LITTLE ROCK, ARK
Gazette
JUL 10 1927

SHERIFF QUICKLY DISPERSES MOBS

Would-Be Lynchers Flee Before Determined Ouachita County Officer.

Special to the Gazette.

Camden, July 9.—Possibilities of a serious race riot here last night were ended by Sheriff Arthur Ellis, who arrested 14 white men following the wounding of a negro. This action broke up one mob and the sheriff gave members of another mob 10 minutes in which to disperse. In 10 minutes there was no mob.

The arrests came late last night following a day of feverish activities by two separate mobs and the sheriff and his forces.

A negro is alleged to have attacked Miss Lucille Castelberry, 19-year-old divorcee, on the Camden-Smackover highway near Cullendale yesterday morning. A posse formed immediately at the Southern International Paper company's plant at Cullendale, where the girl's father, W. F. Castleberry is employed, and began a search for the negro. A second posse also began seeking the negro as did the sheriff and his deputies.

Negro Is Wounded.

Late last night one of the posses met Thad Stevens, negro, and ordered him to stop. The negro is said to have refused and members of the posse opened fire. The negro was struck behind the ear, but was not wounded seriously.

Sheriff Ellis immediately arrested 14 alleged members of the posse. They are: Jack Jeffrys, Austin Ross, Ira Davis, Willie Robertson, W. L. Hankles, John Mathews, I. C. Crumpler, Perry Ross, Ed Shipton, "Buddy" Colvert, Don Ramon, John Doe, E. L. Murry and a man named Phillips. The men are charged with rioting, disturbing the peace and carrying concealed weapons. All were released under bonds and their hearings set for Monday.

Soon after making the arrests Sheriff Ellis ordered members of the mob to disperse. They obeyed. He then confronted another mob, made up largely of young men, and gave them 10 minutes to go home. They, too obeyed.

Feeling has subsided and Sheriff Ellis is confident there will be no serious outbreaks.

An extensive search is being made for the alleged assailant, but the sher-

iff's office is making a thorough investigation of the affair. Conflicting stories of the alleged attack have prompted this investigation.

Arkansas Mob Repulsed by Alertness of Marshal

Lewisville, Ark., Dec. 16.—Mob violence was narrowly averted here Sunday night by the prompt action of Marshall F. H. Patten (white), when he arrested and hustled to the county jail Columbus Wade, 39, on a charge of having insulted a white woman. News of Wade's alleged discourtesy spread rapidly and angry groups quickly formed into a mob. Marshall Patten hearing the discussion of lynching, seized Wade and rushed him to jail before the mob was aware that he had been apprehended.

Officer's Death Threat Disperses Angry Mob

Little Rock, Ark., Dec. 16.—(Special)—A lynching was narrowly averted here Monday when a mob of more than 200 whites was prevented from seizing James Irving, 26, alleged attacker of a young girl, by Deputy Sheriff Jack Bledsoe (white), of Pulaski county, single handed held the mob at bay with a drawn pistol. He threatened to shoot and kill the first person who advanced. The mob's spirit was quickly broken and it dispersed. Irving was taken to the state penitentiary for safe keeping.

Lynchings-1927
Prevented

Arkansas.

2529

BROOKLYN STANDARD UNION

MAY 4 1927

FOILED LYNCHERS THREATEN RACE WAR

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., May 4 (U P). —With Lonnie Dixon, 16-year-old negro, under indictment for first degree murder, the problem of holding mob agitators in check faced city authorities to-day.

The indictment, returned yesterday, charged Dixon with killing 11-year-old Floella McDonald, April 12. Guards were posted throughout the city as the situation continued to be serious. Authorities feared agitators would attempt to molest other negroes.

NEW YORK
Mail & Eve. Telegram

MAY 4 1927

Lynching Again Feared.

By the United Press.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., May 4.—With Lonnie Dixon, 16-year-old negro, under indictment for first degree murder, the problem of holding mob agitators in check faced city authorities today.

The indictment, returned yesterday, charged Dixon with assaulting and killing 11-year-old Floella McDonald April 12.

INDICTS NEGRO BOY SLAYER.

Grand Jury Also Warns on Mob Action at Little Rock, Ark.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., May 3 (AP).—Indictments charging murder and criminal assault were returned today by the Pulaski Grand Jury against Lonnie Dixon, sixteen-year-old negro, confessed slayer of Floella McDonald, seven-year-old child, whose body was found Saturday in the belfry of a fashionable church here.

The Grand Jury at the same time took cognizance of mob demonstrations which followed the arrest of the negro and issued a warning that action would be taken against any one participating in further attempts to inflict summary punishment.

"This jury proposes to do its duty under any and all circumstances," the statement said, "and any misguided citizen who attempts to take the law in his own hands will have the same measure of justice meted out to him."

NEGRO SLAYER SAVED FROM THREAT OF MOB

Little Rock (Ark.) Youth Is Imprisoned in Distant City to Await Trial.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., May 2 (AP).—Behind prison bars in some distant city, safe from a mob which searched a dozen jails for him last night, Lonnie Dixon, fifteen-year-old negro, tonight was safe from threat of mob action for the slaying of twelve-year-old Floella McDonald, while machinery was set in motion here to bring him to speedy justice.

Feeling still was high here tonight over the crime, which came to light Saturday with the discovery of the girl's body in the belfry of the First Presbyterian Church, where the young negro's father was employed as janitor.

Young Dixon confessed, police announced, that he lured the girl into the belfry on April 12 and there attacked and killed her. When news of the confession spread a mob of several thousand formed, but the negro and his father had been spirited out of the city.

The mob after storming the gates of the State Penitentiary and searching that prison and then going through the city and county jails here and those in Benton, Malvern and Hot Springs, dispersed early today.

Prosecuting Attorney Boyd Cypert prepared to present evidence to the County Grand Jury tomorrow with a view to obtaining indictments. Speedy trials will be arranged, the prosecutor said.

TRIBUNE
CHICAGO, ILL.

MAY 3 1927

MOB D... TO LY... SLAYE... NEGRO CHILD

Little Rock, Ark., May 2.—(AP)—A crowd numbering at times as many as 1,000 persons congregated on the vacant lot across from the city hall and adjoining the county courthouse tonight, apparently unconvinced that Lonnie Dixon, 16, Negro, who yesterday confessed to the murder and assault of little Floella McDonald, had been taken out of town. The murder occurred in the belfry of a church.

The police have been instructed to take ten persons at a time through the building and show them every room in the structure. The building is entirely lighted and every room open. Not a Negro prisoner is in the jail.

A mob was also forming about the penitentiary. Armed guards are instructed to shoot if an attack is made. A party of men went to the home of Chief of Police Rotenbury tonight to demand information as to where the Negro had been taken, but the chief had left town.

Spirit Girl's Slayer from Lynching Mob

Little Rock, Ark., May 6.—(Special)—Balked at the state penitentiary, a mob of 5,000 angry white lawyers, doctors, clergymen, ministers, women and children are this week traveling from jail to jail in nearby counties in search of Lonnie Dixon, 16-year-old youth of our Race, who is alleged to have confessed that he assaulted and murdered 12-year-old Floella McDonald (white) in the belfry of the First Presbyterian church here.

Mob Increases In Size

The mob, which began with the women and children Sunday night, a few hours after the youth is said to have confessed that he had murdered the girl, increased in size every hour. Every male member of our Race seen on the streets during the night was chased away by shots fired at random.

They first searched the city jail, but found nothing. Increasing in size as it marched onward, the mob invaded the penitentiary, broke open the lock of the main gate, and sent bullets through the office of the warden. Five minutes later they entered and searched every cell, only to find that the youth had been spirited away. Warden S. L. Todhunter appealed to the chief of police for aid, but was told that the police department was short of men.

A committee of five members of the mob and Warden Todhunter were in prison when the lock was broken on the main gate and about 2,000 people swarmed into the enclosure.

The jails at Hot Springs, Pine Bluff, Benton and other towns have been visited by the furious mob, who are bent on meting out immediate punishment to the girl's slayer.

Police Chief Gets Threat

Unable to get the youth, the mob has now turned its eyes toward Chief of Police B. C. Rotenberry, who by adroit concealment, has cheated the lynchers of their prey. Police have taken into custody several members of the mob, including a cousin of the slain girl.

The whereabouts of the youthful slayer are unknown. Immediately after his confession, police rushed him to safety to await trial.

Dixon, son of Fred Dixon, janitor of the First Presbyterian church, is reported to have confessed to Chief Rotenberry Sunday afternoon while the funeral services of the girl were being held. The confession came just 24 hours after the decomposed body was found in the belfry and 19 days after she disappeared mysteriously.

Youth's Father Exonerated

Young Dixon exonerated his father, who was held for investigation by the police after he traced the offensive odor in the church to the belfry and discovered the child's body beneath the bell.

The boy told police that he saw the girl enter the church vestibule, seeking protection from a hard rain, and that he entered the church and compelled the girl to ascend the ladder to the belfry, where he attacked her. She was slain, he said, when she threatened to tell her parents what had happened between the two.

MILITIA WILL PATROL LITTLE ROCK STREETS

Martineau Determined to Prevent Further Violence.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., May 5.—Governor Martineau issued an order today to the state military department to patrol the city of Little Rock until further orders. The order was issued following a conference of county and city officials with the governor.

Attending the meeting and promising their co-operation, were Mayor Chas. E. Moyer, Alderman John Tuoney, Sheriff J. M. Haynie, Chief Deputy Sheriff A. E. Simmons and Major Fredman. Mayor Moyer and Sheriff Haynie both told the governor that they were prepared to co-ordinate their efforts and assist in carrying out the same instructions as issued to the National Guard troops.

"Use your heads, but also your arms," was the governor's parting admonition to Major Fredman. "We will have no more riots in Little Rock. Where you find a gathering of people, attempt peacably to disperse them, and, failing in this, use your guns and bullets. I have issued instructions to Warden Tod Hunter at the walls to allow no one to enter the penitentiary except on business, and to shoot the first man that attempted it."

Mayor Expresses Regret.

Mayor Chas. E. Moyer issued the following statement today relative to last night's disorders:

"The acts of violence in and around Little Rock last night are deplorable indeed and I very much regret the occurrence. The situation is very bad, but I don't see that it could be improved by mourning today over the bodies of 250 officers and citizens such as I believe would have been the result had the police and sheriffs' force attacked the mob last night. No doubt such an action would have resulted also in the burning of quite a portion of our city.

"I have no criticism to make of the members of the council who decided against this attack, but on the other hand, want to commend them on their foresight and good judgment. As it is only one death resulted. The criminal laws should be changed so that an attempted assault or attack on a woman by a man would be a capital offense.

"For myself and Chief Rotenberry I have no apologies to offer. After the heart-breaking news of the second assault came in yesterday Chief Rotenberry was actually in tears. He has had only five hours rest since Saturday night and was worn to a frazzle mentally and physically. I was not in much better condition myself. I knew nothing of the capture of Carter until 10:40 p.m. I left feeling that should a crisis occur it could be handled more capably by men in better mental and physicial condition than the chief or myself and I believe it was. I left orders to call me if anything happened. Through the excitement I was not called until 10:40 o'clock, when I had been in bed two hours. Immediately I got up and came to Little Rock with all the speed possible, arriving here at 12:45 o'clock.

"I thank God that we have been fortunate enough to prevent the loss of life in the city, either of our officers or any of the citizens. I sincerely hope that the trial and execution of Lonnie Dixon will be allowed to proceed legally and lawfully. It is certain that he will be executed and I sincerely hope that no further violence will be resorted to.

"Representative citizens of the city sat in with the aldermen, determining the course to be pursued. I want to offer them my thanks. I also want to thank the officers and members of the National Guard for a very great service to the city of Little Rock."

MOB FAILS TO LOCATE NEGRO SLAYER OF GIRL

Little Rock, Ark., May 2.—(AP)—Behind prison bars in some distant city, safe from the mob which searched a dozen jails for him last night, Lonnie Dixon, 16 year old son of a Negro janitor, tonight was meditating the slaying of 12 year old Floella McDonald, while machinery was set in motion here to bring him to speedy justice.

Feeling still was high here tonight over the crime which came to light Saurday with the discovery of the girl's body in the belfry of the First Presbyterian church where the young Negro's father was employed as janitor. The elder Dixon gave police information which led to the finding of the body.

Young Dixon confessed, police announced, that he lured the girl into the belfry on April 12, and there attacked and killed her. When news of the confession spread a mob of several thousand formed, but both the Negro and his father had been spirited out of the city.

MAIL
Anderson SC
MAY 5 1927

AN UNKNOWN HERO.

WHEN a white populace ran wild last night at Little Rock Arkansas and lynched a negro charged with attacking two white women, one white man displayed a brand of courage we think is exceptional.

Outraged by the bestial crime, the mod of white men ran amuck, and was not content until it had killed and burned the body of the negro charged with the crime. A reign of terror then ensued, during which white men paraded through the negro section, shooting firearms indiscriminately.

In one negro house, they found a negro who was armed, and proceeded with preparations to lynch him. A white man stood before them, denounced them as a mob and pleaded that the negro be taken to jail instead of being killed. His bravery was sufficient to impress the mob, and his suggestion was carried out.

There is no excuse for lynching, and yet when some horrible deed is done, and the mob has its fury aroused to such an extent, it is easy enough to explain from a psycological standpoint. Were we a relative of the victim in almost any case, we can see where we would likely be just as rabid, and lust just as eagerly for a bloody revenge, even though in our calmer moments we know that it is wrong, dead wrong.

But, our admiration goes to the lone white man, who had the moral courage to stand before the mob, denounce them, and through his sense of fair play and decency, turn a frantic mob back to human beings and cause them to do the sensible thing.

Post
KANSAS CITY
MISSOURI
MAY 4 1927

Test of Law-Abiding Citizenship.

If ever there was provocation to violence it is afforded by the fiendish crime at Little Rock, Ark., where a little girl was attacked when she took refuge in a church from a rainstorm.

A Negro boy, it is announced, has confessed to the hideous crime and is being protected from mob vengeance by the chief of police, against whom the wrath of the outraged citizens now is directed.

It is obvious that, regardless of the natural feelings of the mob, the police authorities are performing their sworn duty in permitting the law to take its course. It is equally obvious that just such incidents constitute the real test of law-abiding citizenship. The heinousness of any offense does not justify setting aside the orderly processes of the law and the illegal taking of a life, when in all human probability it will be forfeited to the law in due time.

The citizenship that conquers the natural resentments and rancors engendered by revolting crimes is the citizenship which the framers of laws take for granted and upon which all citizens must rely for that ultimate protection which is the end and reason for civilized laws.

To lynch the perpetrator of this crime would be only less excusable than to mob the courageous police chief who does his duty under such unenviable circumstances.

Arkansas Troops Protect Race Man, Costs State $1,468

6-23-27
Little Rock Ark June 23

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., June 23—(By A. N. P.)—It cost the State of Arkansas $1,468.13 to protect Lennie Dixon from the maniacal mob bent upon lynching him and to quell the riot following the lynching of John Carter. This amount was paid to the officials of the Arkansas National Guard for expenses incurred at these times. The city police who stood nonchalantly by, according to reports, received their salaries as usual.

Little Rock, Ark., Policemen Stop A Mob With Bullets

Three White Officers Wounded Saving Colored Prisoner From Infuriated Mob That Seeks To Lynch Him

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., June 23.—Three members of the mob which wounded three policemen in an attempt to seize a prisoner were to be arrested late Wednesday, according to an announcement from North Little Rock police headquarters.

The men will be charged with assault to murder. The police officers were not injured badly.

The mob formed in North Little Rock late Tuesday night, after the police had fatally wounded one race man and captured another who accosted a white woman.

The captured man is Robert Allen and the slain was John Johnson.

A North Little Rock white woman told police early Tuesday night that a man had called her over the phone and attempted to make a date. She was advised to make the date by Police Officers W. J. Haynie, George Merriman and J. A. Lindsay. They accompanied her to the place where the pair halted her. When the police appeared, Johnson is said to have showed, was killed instantly by the return fire of the officers.

The sound of the shots drew a curious crowd, which quickly changed to an angry one when the members learned of the incident. The officers resisted all attempts of the crowd to seize the remaining prisoner and, after a gun fight in which three of them were wounded, managed to take him to the police station.

SHERIFF STOPS LYNCH

FOURTEEN ARRESTED ON RIOT CHARGES AFTER THE SUSPECT IS RESCUED

Camden, Ark., July 20, 1927—Another lynching and probable race riot was prevented Friday night when Sheriff Arthur Ellis and his officers overtook a mob of 200 persons and arrested 14 of them before they could properly seize Thad Stevens after the report was circulated that he was wanted in connection with the criminal assault of Lucile Castleberry, 19 year old divorcee, which is alleged to have been committed on the highway near Cullendale.

All the men arrested by the sheriff carried firearms, charges of disturbing the peace, carrying pistols and "riotous activities" were preferred against them and they were released on bonds of 150 each.

Failed to Identify

Stevens was dragged before the girl by his assailant but the girl failed to identify him. He was being borne off amid cries of "lynch him," when the sheriff and his posse came up. After covering the members of the gang with pistols and threatening to shoot them if they offered resistance, they arrested 14 of the members of the gang.

SHERIFF'S GUNS STOP MOB FROM LYNCHING ORGY

Fourteen Are Arrested On Riot Charges After The Suspect Is Rescued

CAMDEN, ARK, JULY 20.—Another lynching and probable race riot was prevented Friday night when Sheriff Aruthur Ellis and his officers overtook a mob of 200 persons and arrested 14 of them before they could properly seize Thad Stevens after the report was circulated that he was wanted in connection with the criminal assault of Lucile Castleberry, 19 year old divorcee, which is alleged to have been committed on the highway near Cullendale.

All the men arrested by the sheriff carried firearms, charges of disturbing the peace, carrying pistols and "riotous activities" were preferred against them and they were released on bonds of $150 each.

Shoot Suspect

Stevens was dragged before the girl by his assailant but the girl failed to identify him. He was being borne off amid cries of "lynch him," when the sheriff and his posse came up. After covering the members of the gang with pistols and threatening to shoot them if they offered resistance, they arrested 14 of the members of the gang.

The men arrested were Jack Jeffreys, Austin Ross, Ira Davis, Wil Robertson, W. L. Hankles, John Matthews, I. C. Crumpter, Perry Ross, Ed Shipton, Buddy Colvert, Don Ramon, Joe Doe, E. E. Murray and a man giving his name as Phillips Stevens was only slightly injured.

Lynchings - 1927
Prevented

Arkansas.

2530

2530

COOLNESS OF OFFICER AND COMMON SENSE OF MOTHER ALLOWED OFFICER AND PRISONER TO WALK THROUGH MOB TO AUTO AND THENCE TO PLACE OF SAFETY. CHARGED WITH STRIKING YOUTH

(P. N. S.)

Demott, April 9—A lynching was averted at Halley Desha County Tuesday afternoon by the presence of mind of Deputy Sheriff Tullous and the willingness of a Negro mother to trust her son to the deputy to be [illegible] through an armed mob to a waiting automobile and thence to jail in Arkansas City.

With citizens of Desha and Chicot Counties aroused over the murder Sunday of Walker Head, Dermott marshal, by Bud Foster news late Tuesday afternoon that Floyd Matson of Halley, seven miles east of Dermott had been clubbed to death by Dewey McKenzie, 26 fanned the wrath of a large number of local men to fever heat, and several carloads of armed men immediately set out for Halley.

Upon arrival, they learned that McKenzie had barricaded himself in his mother's home. The town was in arms and a mob was forming about McKenzie's home. Deputy Tullous arrived at the scene a few minutes later and after addressing a few words to the mob, requesting that the law be allowed to take its course, walked boldly up to the house and demanded admittance.

Surrenders Son

Mrs. McKenzie appeared, badly frightened, and upon seeing Deputy Tullous, ordered her son to follow him. The deputy caught the man by the arm and escorted him thru the mob to a waiting automobile and then took him to Arkansas City.

The morals of the mob was broken by the deputy's sudden appearance, his calm request and his bravery in approaching the house alone. The injured youth's uncle also begged with members of the mob to commit no violence.

The Matson boy was struck about 4 Tuesday afternoon by the McKenzie boy who used a radius rod of an automobile. He hit the youth just back of the right ear.

The cause of the trouble between Matson and McKenzie is not known. The attack took place directly in front of the Halley General store where Matson is employed.

Were Ready to Shoot.

Members of the mob declare they were prepared to open fire on the house if the Colored mother refused to surrender her son to the officer. They also were ready to open fire if McKenzie shot at Tullous as he approached the house.

Although feeling in this section, [illegible] believed that unless Matson dies from his injuries McKenzie will not be molested in the Arkansas City jail.

SETS BAND OF 90 ARMED MEN AT DEFIANCE

Rescues Accused Boy as Mother Looks on

Halley, Ark., April 1.—A lynching was averted here by the narrowest of margins on Tuesday afternoon when a lone sheriff set at defiance a mob of 90 armed whites and snatched away to safety the man they sought to kill.

Deputy Sheriff Tullous, one of the most fearless [illegible] Desha county, was the hero of the recue. Mrs. Hazel McKenzie, mother of Dewey McKenzie, whom the lynchers were seeking, looked on while Tullous, single-handed, piloted her son through the mob. The lynchers cast baleful glances at the sheriff and his charge, and made every sort of threatening gesture. But never once did they dare to interfere.

Tullous carried young McKenzie from his mother's home, where he had taken refuge, to a waiting automobile, and whisked him away to the safety of a jail in a neighboring town.

Mob Sets Out

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Mrs. McKenzie listened to Deputy Tullous and ordered her son to follow him. The deputy caught the man by the arm and escorted him through the mob to a waiting automobile and then took him to Arkansas City.

Cows Lynchers

The morale of the mob was broken by the deputy's sudden appearance, his calm request and his bravery in approaching the house alone. The injured youth's uncle also begged with members of the mob to commit no violence.

The Matson boy was struck about 4 o'clock Tuesday afternoon by the McKenzie boy, who used a radius rod of an automobile. He hit the youth just back of the right ear. The cause of the trouble between Matson and McKenzie is not known. The attack took place directly in front of the Halley general store where Matson is employed.

Lynchings-1927
Prevented.

Delaware

2526

Fear Lynching of Man In Wilmington, Del., Jail

Wilmington, Del.,—Carl Asbury Skinner, 27, who is alleged to have assaulted Julia [illegible] Bennett, 85, a white woman, was removed last night from the jail at Georgetown to the workhouse here.

The move was ordered by Sheriff William G. Bryan to avoid lynching. Skinner has confessed. Mrs. Bennett is recovering.

Lynchings - 1927
Prevented

D.C.

2527

JUST AVERT LYNCHING IN U. S. CAPITAL

Angry Mob Gathers Around Jail Where Five Race Citizens Are Held. Suspected Of Attack

WASHINGTON, D. C., Aug. 3—A lynching was on the verge of occurring at the very door of the Capitol of the United States Saturday. Police reserves were required to disperse a frenzied mob that gathered around the jail at Upper Marlboro, where five Race men were being held on suspicion in an attack case.

The men, Richard Brown, William H. Proctor, Calvin R. Ridley, Alfrederick Simms and Henry W. Proctor, were spirited away from Upper Marlboro while the mad crowd milled about the prison. They were placed in.

The five men, all of Oxon Hill, Md., were arrested after Alberta Rice had charged that she was taken from an automobile by five colored men while riding with a companion and attacked, her discription of one of her assailants is said to have fit one of the five men held. The others were arrested with him.

Lynchings - 1927

Florida.

2504

Prevented.

Florida Sheriff Is Presented With Medal for His Courage

Sheriff L. M. Hiers, of Hillsborough county (Tampa), Fla., who was presented Sunday with the above medal for his heroic stand in defense of his jail May 30 and 31.

Tampa, Fla., September 26.—(Special.)—In recognition of his determined and successful stand against the mobs which attacked the Hillsborough county jail May 30 and 31, Sheriff L. M. Hiers today was honored by his fellow citizens by the public presentation of a handsome medal commemorating his fidelity.

The presentation was made at the county courthouse by Mayor Perry G. Wall in the presence of a large assemblage, including many officials and other prominent citizens. Mayor Wall paid a high tribute to the determination, courage and resourcefulness manifested by the sheriff in his defense of the jail against the frenzied mobs bent on lynching B. F. Levins, confessed slayer of the family of Herman Merrill.

The medal awarded Sheriff Hiers is a handsome bronze, picturing a heroic figure standing with drawn sword before a classic temple of justice, while roundabout is the inscription, "In Defense of Law and Civilization." Engraved on the reverse side are the words, "To Sheriff L. M. Hiers, for Notable Service, May 30-31, 1927."

The medal was designed by one of America's leading sculptors for the southern commission on interacial cooperation for presentation to sheriffs and other officers who protect prisoners from threatening mobs. Up to the present it has been awarded in about a dozen cases.

The commission of award is composed of Governor John W. Martin of Florida; ex-Governor Hugh M. Dorsey, of Georgia; George B. Dealy, proprietor Dallas News; Marshal Ballard, proprietor New Orleans Item, and Mrs. J. H. McCoy, president Athens Female college, Athens, Alabama.

SHERIFF GETS MEDAL FOR PROTECTING PRISONER AGAINST MOB

Tampa, Fla., Sept. 26.—In recognition of his determined and successful stand against the mobs which attacked the Hillsborough county jail on May 30 and 31, Sheriff L. M. Hiers was today honored by his fellow citizens by the public presentation of a handsome medal commemorating his fidelity. The presentation was made at the county court house by Mayor Perry G. Wall in the presence of a large assemblage, including many officials and other prominent citizens. Mayor Wall paid a high tribute to the determination, courage, and resourcefulness manifested by the sheriff in his defense of the jail against the frenzied mobs bent on lynching B. F. Levins, confessed slayer of the family of Herman Merrill.

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It Can Be Done.

Friday morning at Fort Myers Fla., a horrible crime was committed. The perpetrator should receive nothing less than the death penalty, and there is little doubt that he will get that when apprehended and put on trial.

Some of the enraged citizens of Fort Myers, however, wanted to take the law into their own hands. They formed a mob and made preparations to storm the jail. The sheriff assured them that the man was not in jail, as he had not been caught.

But mobs will not listen to reason. They would not take the sheriff's word for it, and went ahead to do the work of a mob. The sheriff knew that if they entered the jail the probabilities were that they would seize and lynch some prisoner who had nothing to do with the case.

So the officer warned them to keep their distance. He instructed his deputies to shoot to kill. That order, "shoot to kill," seems to be about the only thing that will bring a mob to its senses. When a sheriff gives it, and those who would take the law into their own hands suspect that the sheriff means what he says, the mob backs up. That is what the Fort Myers mob did.

It is the sworn duty of a sheriff to defend his prisoners and the prison property. When a sheriff performs his sworn duty, the mob wilts.

The Fort Myers incident is further evidence that prisoners can be protected from mobs. As a rule, when the sheriff wills it can be done.

OBEYED

Mob Tries to Rush Jail, But Sheriff Issues Order For Deputies to Fire and Aim to Kill.

FORT MYERS, Fla., Sept. 22.—The entire police force was called out last Friday night to quell a disturbance growing out of the unsuccessful efforts of a mob to storm the Lee County jail in search of the alleged attacker of a 50-year-old white woman in her home on the outskirts of the city.

Later the besiegers ranks were thinned by the threats of officers to use their firearms, and although scattered groups lingered in the vicinity, the authorities said the situation was under control.

The mob, composed of approximately 100 men, most of them heavily armed, formed early Friday night after it had been reported that the man had been arrested and placed in the county jail.

Marching a few blocks to the courthouse yard, they demanded entrance to the jail but found that Sheriff Lee Tippins had beaten them there and placed a squad of deputies at vantage points inside the enclosure. The sheriff assured the mob's leader that the man had not been captured, and ordered them to disperse.

He instructed his deputies to shoot to kill if an attempt was made to enter the jail grounds, and hearing this, the crowd fell back.

During the afternoon and early evening, groups of armed men patrolled the city. While some searched dwellings in the Negro quarter, others guarded all highways and railroads in an effort to prevent his escape. Automobiles leaving the city on every road were searched.

The attack victim, who is the mother of three children, told officers that her assailant forced his way into the house while she was alone this morning. She said he wore overalls and appeared to be about 30 years of age. Her condition was reported by physicians to be critical.

MOB VIOLENCE FEARED IN FLORIDA

Two Men Held Following Fatal Auto Wreck

JACKSONVILLE, FLA., Sept. 19.—(AP)—Because of possible mob violence authorities from Live Oak, Fla., today brought Tom Chapman of Denison, Texas, and Frank Barnes, negro chauffeur of Tampa to Jacksonville today following an automobile accident yesterday near Live Oak in which Mrs. Mysetta Roberts of Lake City was fatally injured.

Deputy Sheriff Gus Brown of Suwannee county, who accompanied the prisoners here, said that the men were occupants of a car which collided with the one in which Mrs. Roberts was riding.

FLORIDA Pittsburg Courier SHERIFF 9/24/27.

TRIBUNE
TAMPA, FLA.

SEP 27 1927

SHERIFF HIERS DECORATED FOR QUELLING MOB

Inter-Racial Medal Presented by Mayor in Ceremony

Presentation of the medal of the Southern Commission on Inter-racial Co-operation was made to Sheriff Hiers yesterday in recognition of commendable service in handling the riot situation in Tampa last May.

Mayor Wall presented the medal at a ceremony on the steps of the courthouse. Mayor Wall commended the sheriff on his stand for justice, declaring that his course had won the endorsement of all law-abiding citizens of Tampa.

"It gives me pleasure to present this medal, emblematic of a staunch stand for justice," said Mayor Wall. "You performed your duty creditably and won the support of all conscientious citizens in making a determined fight for law and order."

The presentation was under the auspices of the Tampa Walfare League through which the medal was delivered here. J. A. Griffin, president of the league, handed the medal to the mayor, with a statement of the purposes of the organization which bestowed it.

Sheriff Hiers responded with a brief speech in which he expressed gratitude for the support of Tampans during the period of strife. Dr. George Hyman, pastor of the Bayshore Baptist church, pronounced the benediction.

The medal of the inter-racial commission has been awarded in only a few instances since the organization was founded. Although the Tampa riots of May 30-31, brought about by efforts of mobs to seize Benjamin Franklin Levins, slayer of the Merrill family, were not strictly inter-racial in their character, the commission deemed Sheriff Hiers' conduct was worthy of recognition.

Lynchings- 1927
Prevented

Florida.

2523

TRIBUNE
Coshocton-O.
JUN 3 1927

SHERIFF HIERS

SHERIFF HIERS, of Hillsborough County, Fla., is made of the right stuff. He demonstrated that he knew his duty and how to perform it when a mob stormed the Hillsborough County jail at Tampa to lynch a prisoner. He and his deputies held the jail against the mob all night. He resisted the mob with bullets from his deputies' revolvers, and with streams of ammonia played upon it by a local fire company.

In the morning, when a company of national guards with machine guns, sent by the Governor, arrived, dauntless Sheriff Hiers was still holding the jail. The mob had succeeded in ramming a hole in the wall, but the Sheriff had under arrest two members of the mob who had fallen thru the hole into the jail. The prisoner, who according to his own confession, was a brutal murderer of five persons, will be tried in court according to law. Law and order have been sustained by Sheriff Hiers.

In hailing Sheriff Hiers as an official who did his duty fearlessly, we indulge the hope that his fine example will infuse his courage and fidelity to duty into other Sheriffs and law officers.

THE SHAME OF MOB VIOLENCE

(The Houston Post-Dispatch)

The insane fury to which the mob instinct sometimes carries members of a community is well illustrated by the civil war in progress Monday and Tuesday at Tampa, Fla.

A mob of 1,000 persons stormed the Hillsborough jail at Tampa, Monday night, seeking to lynch the confessed slayer of a family of five persons.

Courageous peace officers repelled the attack by force of arms after repeated pleadings with the mob had failed. Eleven persons, two of them women, were wounded.

National Guard troops were rushed to the scene and placed in charge of the jail. Another attempt to lynch the prisoner was made Tuesday night. The guardsmen were compelled to fire in order to repulse a desperate attack. One member of the mob was killed and eighteen wounded, some of them seriously.

A mob usually breaks up at the first sign of determined resistance on the part of civil or military authorities. The Tampa mob proved itself to be an exception to the rule. In its wild rage it sought to wreak vengeance upon a company of 100 well armed and disciplined soldiers, blind to the fact that before it could hope to capture the Hillsborough county jail its dead would be piled in windrows.

One machine gun turned loose upon that rabble would have inflicted a slaughter terrible to contemplate. Soldiers obey orders, and under the "shoot to kill orders" given to them at Tampa they would have no other recourse than to use machine guns if the situation demanded.

Ten cool-headed, determined men can hold a jail against any mob that seeks to lynch a prisoner. And the mob which attempts to storm a jail guarded by soldiers armed with rifles, pistols and machine guns has reached a wild stage of insanity.

Better elements among the people of the South have pleaded and argued for years against mob violence, pointing to its hideous injustices, calling attention to the fact that it is savagery and anarchy of the most extreme type.

In the light of sixty-year crusade it becomes more and more apparent that the mob instinct will not yield to moral suasion, since the people who constitute mobs are the ones least likely to be moved by any appeal to reason, fairness or veneration for law and authority.

There is a sterner but more effective method of putting down mob violence, which has been tolerated too long by the great majority of Southern citizens.

The lawabiding people of the South need to bring the strongest possible pressure to bear upon peace officers, grand juries and other servants of the State.

They should demand that peace officers defend prisoners against mob violence, to the last ditch, as the officers at Tampa did Monday night; using powder and lead, "shooting to kill" whenever necessary. They should demand that attempted mob violence be drastically punished, no matter if the attempts were not successful.

Rigid State laws providing that any peace officer who surrenders a prisoner to a mob be automaically thrown out of office are needed.

Mob violence is by no means confined to the South, but it occurs most frequently in Southern States. Unless the people of the South can stamp out lynching through State and local effort, they will have nobody except themselves to blame if the Federal government takes the lynching question into its own hands, meting out stern penalties to every community which countenances this disgraceful and indefensible practice.

The Tampa Mob.

A man arrested in Tampa, Fla. confessed to the mlurder of a whole family—a man, his wife and three children.

It was an atrocious crime. If the perpetrator is mentally responsible he deserves no sympathy. But his identity, his motive and his mental condition are matters for the courts to pass upon.

hTe man held for the crime may not be the man who committed it regardles of his confession. He may be crazy, and not connected with the murder in any way. Or, if he is really the murderer, he may have been non compos mentis at the time of the murder.

Under any circumstances, the jailed suspect is entitled to that which the constitution of the United States guarantees him, trial by a jury of his peers.

But mobs have little consideration for the constitution, law or justice. They think only of revenge.

In Tampa a mob estimated to number 2,000 demanded that the alleged slayer be delivered into their hands. When their demand was rejected they attacked the jail. The mob was repulsed, with three of its members killed and a score wounded.

The sheriff, or whoever was in charge, had done his duty and prepared to uphold the law by protecting the prisoner given into his keeping. State troops were on guard when the mob made its attack, and they did what they were sent there to do.

Clashes of this kind are deplorable, wherever they occur, and they are not peculiar to any section or community. But whenever there is a conflict between the law on the one hand and a mob on the other, the sympathies of those who have regard for justice and the best interests of society are with the law.

Every law-enforcing officer has a sworn duty to perform. The citizens of a county know that the man they elect as chief law enforcer must make oath to uphold the law. And yet some of them, under conditions similar to those obtaining in Tampa, will resort to force in an effort to make the man under oath join them in trying to break down the law.

In a court of justice a jury never pronounces a defendant guilty until the evidence has been heard. In the eyes of the mob he is guilty as soon as he is suspected. The mob is swayed by passion, never by reason. It will indict on rumor, convict on hearsay, and execute on impulse.

We must have either law and order or the mob and chaos. Which shall it be?

Each individual must choose for himself, and his worth as a citizen may be determined by his choice.

NATIONAL GUARD PROTECT PRISON FROM ANGRY MOB

Machine Guns and Bark of Pistols Answers Fire From Crowd of More Than 2,000.

GROUP OF 50 MEN CHARGE TROOPS

Battered Jail Is Protected on Each Side by Machine Gun Batteries. Grenades Ready.

Tampa, Fla., June 1.—(AP)—Howling defiance at 500 national guardsmen protecting the Hillsborough county jail, the object for the last two nights of rioting crowds seeking vengeance on B. F. Levine, confessed slayer of five persons here late last week, another mob Tuesday night laid seige to the vicinity of the jail and was exchanging desultory volleys with militiamen patroling the area.

At 1 o'clock this morning two men had been killed and 18 still believed to be members of the attacking groups, had been wounded and the guardsmen were under orders to shoot to kill.

The dead are Hal Price and H. G. McCray.

2,000 People Present.

It was estimated that more than 2,000 persons were in the throng which milled about outside a roped-off area on the four sides of the jail, their shouts and curses being punctuated here and there by scattered shots from their own ranks and the rattle of machine guns and bark of pistols as the guardsmen returned the fire.

Cavalrymen dashed through the eddying mass of humanity in an effort to scatter the throng, but their frequent sallies failed to do more than open temporary lanes which quickly were closed again.

The rioting, which was quelled early Tuesday after 11 persons, one a woman, had been wounded in an attack with a battering ram on the jail walls, broke out afresh shortly before 10 o'clock Tuesday night when a disorderly element of the crowd which all day had congregated about the restricted area, dashed out street lights with bricks.

Troops Are Charged.

Simultaneously, a group of about 50 charged a detachment of troops marching to post reliefs on the outside of the ropes, and when they refused to halt, the soldiers loosed a pistol volley which brought down six of the attackers.

A lull ensued, broken a few minutes later by scattered shots from the mob. These were answered by machine gun fire from the soldiery, which dropped three more members of the frenzied crowd.

Hand-to-hand clashes were staged on all sides when a cavalryman was pulled off his horse and man-handled by the mob. During the confusion, his fate was not learned immediately, but with the mob's temper rapidly becoming more menacing, fears for his safety were felt.

As military ambulances and first aid squads hastened to the scene, the

crowd turned its attention again to lights in the vicinity. This time a street lamp was shot out. Passing motorists were ordered to extinguish their headlights and when one failed to heed the command, his lamps were shot out.

Shortly after midnight Tuesday the police answered a riot call in another section of the city.

Dead and Injured.

The dead:
Hal Pifer, 33, Ocala.
The wounded:
S. J. Ellis, shot through abdomen, serious condition.
J. L. Leavins, 24, shot through back. Condition uncertain.
Richard Yates, 18, two shots in left leg and one shot in right leg. All wounds below knees.
Jack Walton, bullet wound above eye, discharged after treatment.
Frank Carter, 21, shot in knee cap, discharged.
D. E. Savage, 21, shot in knee, discharged.
D. F. Graves, shot through arm, discharged.
No members of guard have been shot.

Jail Is Protected.

The battered jail is protected on each side by machine gun batteries, while in addition to the mounted and foot patrols in the forbidden area, riflemen are stationed at vantage points inside the jail and in the cemetery adjacent. A machine gun also bristles from the belfry of a negro church across the street, which last night housed mob snipers.

On top of the four-story brick jail are stationed other soldiers with machine guns, hand grenades and tear gas bombs. Powerful searchlights have been set up to aid in a constant lookout of the immediate vicinity.

TELEGRAM
Adrian - Mich
JUN 2 1927

EVIL FRUIT

The story of the Tampa jail riot is an amazing exhibition of lawlessness. Even in the land of lynchings it seems almost incredible that in a city of more than a hundred thousand population a mob should keep up a three days' battle, and that the troops had to kill four men and wound a score before order was restored.

Yet the affair is really not so strange, after all. It is no more strange than a noisome weed springing up where the seeds have been sown. It would be astounding if such a thing should happen in Michigan, for such things are foreign to this state. It is much less so in Florida, for mob lawlessness is indigenous and chronic there. The Tampa affair was only like an extra large alligator.

They had eight lynchings in Florida last year—the largest number recorded for any state. They had about the same number the year before, and the year before that. While other southern states have made striking progress during the last twenty years in rooting out this abomination, Florida has made none.

Only a year or so ago in the adjoining county, just across the bay from Tampa, there was a lynching of the most disgraceful sort. A party of men—not a great mob, but a mere handful—took a prisoner away from officers on the highway and lynched him. The officers made no resistance and nobody was punished. That happened almost within sight of the Tampa jail riot. Just such things happen all over the state. It is common knowledge that lynchers cannot be punished. Sheriffs won't defend prisoners; officials won't investigate earnestly; witnesses won't testify; grand juries won't indict; petty juries would not convict if given a chance.

In short the state of Florida has been in a dark and backward state of mind and morals as far as lynching is concerned. It is below par. It is on an inferior level. The better class of Floridians know that every word of this is true. The Tampa disgrace is only the natural, logical, inevitable product of such conditions.

There is one bright spot, however. In this case the officers of the law did their duty. They did not dodge or weakly yield. The sheriff, the governor and the commander of the troops had the wisdom and the moral character and the stamina to sustain the law by force. The state of Florida ought to give every one of them a decoration. The fact that thirty or more of the mob are in jail is also encouraging; maybe they cannot be convicted of anything, but even their arrest is better than nothing.

If this affair serves to wake up the backward native population of Florida, and to form a turning-point in their attitude toward lawlessness, it will be a boon instead of a calamity. It is high time for the state of Florida to wake up to the fact that its credit and reputation in the north, as well as its own welfare at home, demand that the reign of law be restored.

CHRONICLE-TELEGRAPH
PITTSBURGH, PA.
JUN 2 1927

Discouraging Mob Murder.

IF ALL authorities in southern states acted with the determination shown by those at Tampa, Florida, the hideous evil of murder by mobs would soon be a thing of the past. In this instance it was necessary to call out members of the National Guard to prevent the lynching of a prisoner in the county jail. In the performance of their duty the guardsmen were forced to fire upon the crowd that threatened to take the prisoner, causing four fatalities and injuries to a score of persons, some of whom, it is reported, were enacting the proverbially dangerous role of "innocent bystanders."

The object of the mob's attempted vengeance in this case is said to have confessed to the murder of five members of a family. But there was no fear that he was about to escape punishment for his crime. As usual, the would-be lynchers could not see that they were engaged in tearing down the foundations on which our system of justice is based. They were assailing the law which was provided for their protection as well as that of all citizens. In seeking to be jury, judge and executioner the mob was not upholding the law and taking a righteous stand for justice, but was flouting the law and mocking that spirit of justice which prescribes that even the self-confessed murderer shall have the right to have his case disposed of by the courts.

Congress has long considered enactment of an "anti-lynching law," for which, it is believed, there is Constitutional warrant, imposing penalties on counties where mob murders take place. Each time the proposed measure has been presented southern Senators have protested on the ground that the people of their states are suppressing the evil. The statistics do indicate decided improvement during the last few years. The authorities at Tampa have shown the way to give the South a clean record in this respect. There is only one argument that appeals to a mob. Those who would substitute violence for the orderly processes of the law must be met with force and taught such a lesson as has been meted out to the would-be lynchers by the courageous officials at Tampa.

SLAYER OF NINE PLACED ON TRIAL

Eleven Jurors Already Selected in Case of Florida Man Who Confessed Crime

TAMPA, FLA., July 25.—(AP)—Eleven jurors have been selected to try Benjamin Franklin Levins, confessed slayer of nine persons, and on trial specifically for the slaying with a railroad spike maul last May of Looney Merrell and his wife, when court was adjourned today.

Levins has admitted slaying three members of the Bee Dee Rowell family and a roomer at their home with an axe last summer and involved Leonard H. Thompson, who was arrested with him. Looney Merrell, his wife and three children were killed as they slept and Levins confessed, saying that he had mistaken them for another family. He also involved Thompson in these murders.

Spectators were barred from the courtroom this morning and one of the first acts of the court was to sever the cases of the defendants on motion of Levins' attorneys.

Both Levins and Thompson were indicted by a recent grand jury for the deaths of the two elder Merrells, but the indictments did not mention the Merrill children nor the Rowell family. Levins and Thompson were arrested the day after the Merrill deaths.

Three nights of rioting around the county jail here followed Levins' arrest in which attempts were made by mobs to take him from the prison. National guardsmen were called out and six persons were killed and more than a score wounded in clashes between the mobs and troops.

NEGRO CAPTURED IN FLORIDA TAKEN AWAY TO SAFETY

Leesburg, Fla., July 13.—(AP)—Leesburg and this section of Lake county was in a turmoil tonight as a result of the apprehension of a negro thought to have been the one which late Sunday night brutally attacked a 13-year-old girl at Whitney, west of here, and assaulted the child's uncle.

Chief of Police John Hurlbert, of Leesburg, and W. B. McMahon, managing editor of the Leesburg Commercial and a deputized officer, singlehanded took the negro away from the mob and rushed him to Tavares.

MOB THREATENS WEBSTER SLAYER

Jacksonville, Fla., August 10.—(AP) Removal, in view of alleged threats to storm the crowded county jail at Fort Lauderdale [illegible] Alderman and Robert E. Weech, Miami alleged rum-runners, charged with first-degree murder in connection with the slaying Sunday of two government operatives in a battle 40 miles off Fort Lauderdale, from Fort Lauderdale to the jail here was ordered today by Judge William T. Grubb, of the United States court for the southern district of Florida.

Plans for the transfer are being made by United States Marshall B. E. Dyson.

Alderman and Weech are being held for the slaying of Robert K. Webster, secret service agent, and Horace Sanderlin, boatswain of the coast guard service.

G. H. Broadnax, operative in charge of the United States secret service, returned here yesterday from Fort Lauderdale, where he conducted a personal investigation of the affray, and his report smacks of tales told of Captain Kidd days.

Broadnax in referring to Webster declared "he died a hero—acting to save his life and the lives of the others."

SLAYERS REMOVED TO JACKSONVILLE

Jacksonville, Fla., August 12.—(AP) In irons and closely guarded by government operatives, Horace Alderman, rum-runner desperado, was brought to Jacksonville tonight from Fort Lauderdale on board the coast guard cutter No. 248 and incarcerated in the Duval county jail here. With him was Robert E. Weech, his alleged partner.

The pair were brought to Jacksonville for safe keeping. Threats were made to rescue them from the Broward county jail at Fort Lauderdale following the slaying on the high seas Sunday of two government men, the fatal wounding of a coast guardsman and the injuring of another guardsman during a gun battle, smacking of the Captain Kidd days. Their transfer here was ordered by Judge William I. Grubb, of the United States court for the district of south Florida. The men were given separate cells here.

Robert K. Webster, secret service operative, and Sidney Sanderlin, boatswain of the coast guard service, were slain, and Victor A. Lamby, motor machinist's mate was fatally wounded in the gun battle which was staged after Sanderlin's cutter had overhauled an alleged rum-smuggling boat manned by Alderman and Weech.

Alderman bore grim reminders of the battle, several deep cuts on the top of his head and bruises about the body. He maintained a sullen silence when newspapermen attempted to question him.

On the other hand, Weech was steadfast in his previous statement that he was under order of death from Alderman if he did not do as he was told. He said that Alderman did all the shooting and he only obeyed or [illegible] get the point of a gun. "I either had to do it or be killed," he said

Lynchings- 1927

Prevented

Florida.

2524

2524

MEN TAKEN FROM JAIL.

Fear of Mob Violence Causes Transfer of Prisoners.

FORT PIERCE, Fla., Feb. 5.—(AP)—Fear of violence led States Attorney Sumner to remove six men, four of them United States immigration officers, from the Fort Pierce jail today and taken to an unannounced destination. The men were held in connection with the death of Pearl S. Thomas, Fort Pierce traveling salesman, who was shot to death last night as he drove his automobile on the Dixie highway, near here.

The immigration officers, Mr. Sumner declared, had orders to watch for smuggled aliens and stationed themselves on the highway. Thomas, according to the state's version, was the first man to come along. They ordered him to stop and opened fire when he failed to do so.

Thomas was said to be a cousin of Representative Raney, of Illinois.

MOB VIOLENCE FEARED

Prisoners Removed to Unannounced Jail for Protection

FORT PIERCE, FLA., Feb. 5.—(AP)—Fears of violence led States Attorney Sumner to remove six men, four of them United States immigration officers, removed from the Fort Pierce jail today and taken to an unannounced destination.

The men were held in connection with the death of Pearl S. Thomas, Fort Pierce traveling salesman, who was shot to death last night as he drove his automobile on the Dixie highway, near here.

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Thomas was said to be a cousin of [illegible]

Chief
Winter Haven-Fla,
DEC 23 1926

Would-Be Lynchers Foiled by Deputy When They Try to Get Negro Accused of Murder

Lakeland, Dec. 23.—(AP)—When about a dozen men went to the Polk county jail at Bartow last midnight and demanded of Deputy Sheriff Frank Childs that he surrender them the negro held in connection with the murder of Deputy Sheriff Ed. Harrelson of Lakeland near this city Monday night, he told them there was nothing doing; that they had had their chance at lynching the negro before he was locked up, and now that he was safely in custody of the law, they couldn't get him and he made the small crowd of men move on.

Seek Other Negro

Lakeland, Dec. 23.—(AP)—While a coroner's jury continued its investigation of the slaying of J. E. Harrelson, Polk county deputy sheriff, by two negroes at Galloway, Tuesday night, relatives and friends assembled at Mt. Tabor Baptist church at 11 o'clock today for the funeral of the dead officer. In the meantime one negro, Earl London, is in the county jail at Bartow and the other, John Rogers alias "Spokey Joe," who, according to London, fired the fatal shot, is still at large. The Lakeland police have the blood-stained clothing he is said to have worn when he and London were shot by Ernest Harrelson, brother of the slain deputy in a battle at Galloway. The clothing was changed at Plant City about noon Wednesday, officers said, and Rogers left immediately in a car headed in the direction of Tampa. He is badly wounded ,as his clothing indicates.

Got Birdshot Baptism

Only the thickness of the garments prevented the three loads of birdshot from bringing him to the ground, officers say. He wore a brown coat, two pair of trousers a sweater, shirt and underclothes. London told officers that after Deputy Harrelson informed the two negroes that he was an officer Rogers shot him before he could get out from under the steering wheel. Armed deputies today continued to patrol the highways. London was arrested by a man named Fletcher near Youmans and turned over to Chief McDougall, who in turn gave him to Polk county officers. London is said to have confessed the whole affair.

Seek Slayer in Tampa

Tampa, Fla. Dec. 23.—Search for one of two negroes wanted in connection with the killing of J. E. Harrelson at Lakeland was centered in Tampa today. Warned that the negro headed for this city, after changing clothes in Plant City yesterday, police and deputy sheriffs maintained a watch for him on all roads last night.

Sheriff L. M. Hiers today instructed all deputies and traffic officers to be on the lookout for the negro, said to be John Rogers. Declaring that the automobile in which Rogers left Plant City had not arrived here, the officer said he believed Rogers abandoned it and reached here on foot.

MOB BATTERS JAIL AFTER SLAYER OF 5

Five Members of Attacking Party and Woman Bystander Wounded in Fight

TAMPA, FLA., May 30.—(AP)—A mob of approximately 50 men was being held off by deputies inside the Hillsborough county jail here late tonight with shotgun volleys and tear gas bombs after battering a hole through a brick wall of the jail in an attempt to search for B. F. Levine confessed slayer of five persons.

The first fusillade from the defenders wounded five members of the storming party and a woman bystander, but it failed to do more than scatter the attackers for a moment. They congregated in the immediate neighborhood and their numbers appeared to be increasing momentarily as more men joined the group.

Tear gas bombs were resorted to between warning shots from the deputies' guns to keep the mob out of the jail yard, but when a second assault on the jail appeared imminent, Sheriff Hiers announced shortly after midnight he was considering requesting the governor to call out a local unit of the National Guard.

FOUR DEAD, 3 SHOT IN TAMPA RIOTING

Reign of Violence Following Arrest of Family Slayer Suppressed, Is Belief

TAMPA, FLA., June 1.—(AP)—Four dead, three others in a serious condition and more than a score wounded marked the three nights of rioting that culminated last night when national guardsmen answered shots from a crowd in the vicinity of the county jail with machine gun fire.

Civil and military officers expressed the belief tonight that the reign of violence had been suppressed, but every precaution against a recurrence was maintained. Thirty alleged members of the mobs were under arrest and held to await action by the grand jury, called to meet in special session Monday to investigate the disutrbances.

Undismayed by an unsuccessful attempt Sunday night to remove B. F. Levins, confessed slayer of five, from the county jail, and another attempt the following night when 12 persons were wounded in a battle with deputy sheriffs, the mob formed again Tuesday night and persisted in its purpose until the troopers' fire had mowed down 21 persons, four of whom subsequently died of their wo[illegible]

Two Slain in Attack On Florida Guards; Eighteen Wounded

TAMPA June 1—(AP)—Two men are known to have been killed and 18 wounded in fighting between state troopers and members of a mob surrounding the Hillsborough county jail until 1 o'clock this morning.

The dead: Hal Pifer, 33, Ocala, Fla H. G. McCray.

Among the wounded: S. J. Ellis shot through abdomen, serious condition.

K. L. Leavins, 24, shot through back.

Richard Yates, [illegible] shot in both legs.

Jack Walton, bullet wound above eye.

Frank Carter, 21, shot in knee cap.

D. E. Savage, 21, shot in knee.

D. F. Graves, shot through arm.

No members of the guard had been shot at this hour.

Machine Gunners at Tampa Fire Into Mob Bent Upon Lynching

TAMPA, Florida, June 1.—The mob which seemed determined to lynch B. F. Levins, reputed to have confessed to several murders, finally dispersed this morning, but not until it had clashed with the Florida National Guard.

The crowd, made up of many of the best citizens of Tampa, with sundry visiting Northerners who came South seeking amusement and were anxious to partake of the chief sport and help hang a man, were considerably shocked when the deputies and militia actually defended the jail. Lurid stories of the atrocity of the crime had inflamed the Southern gentleman and their guests, and the lynch mob formed with the fatal facility of long practice, forgetting that there was no Negro involved in this case.

Anger at the sheriffs for firing caused further clashes, in which machine guns were finally used. Three are killed and an unknown number wounded.

PUBLIC LEDGER
PHILADELPHIA, PA.
JUN 3 1927

To Florida's Credit

FLORIDA'S method of dealing with a mob intent upon lynching a prisoner held in the Hillsborough County Jail for murder is an example of resolute defense of the law and effective action to quell mob violence that should be noted by other communities. The crime for which the prisoner is held for trial was one of extreme atrocity; but the fact offered no excuse for refusing to permit the law to take its course. The local Sheriff withstood the would-be lynchers as long as possible, and then State militia were sent to his support. The lawless were given timely warning, and when they persisted in their attempt to break into the jail machine guns were employed, with deadly effect. This action called for courageous devotion to duty, for in some sections of the country mobs do not always discriminate between their intended victims and officials who may have the temerity to stand in their way.

HE WASN'T LYNCHED

Ten days ago at Tampa, Florida, a horrible white monster who confessed the murder of nine people was saved from a lynching mob by State troops ordered out by the governor to protect the murderer. Herald Commercial

The commanding officer of the State troops ordered the mob to disperse and warned it that it would be fired upon if the jail or troops were attacked. The warning was not heeded, the troops shot into the mob with the result that five men were killed and twenty wounded, and the mob dispersed, the monster was not lynched and order has since prevailed in Tampa. 6-11-27

Which teaches that if a State through its executive or a county through its sheriff, with the mayor and chief of police of the county seat desire to uphold the law they can do it. Mobs are always composed of cowards and assemble only because its numbers is a guarantee of safety to each individual member when on its mission of murder of a helpless victim. Baltimore Sun

If Levins had been a Negro and been only charged with murder of one person, or attempted assault of a woman there would have been no troops to protect him in Florida and he would have been lynched.

The attempted lynching of the monster Levins and the consequent killing of five persons and murdering of twenty others will no doubt cause Gov. Martin of Florida to reflect that the lynch habit grows upon what it feeds.

Wherever and whenever mobs can lynch Negroes with ease and safety and without even embarassment to its members it will be only a question of a short time before they will forget the color line and lynch white men.

All governors and law enforcing officers exhibit bitter and intense opposition to the lynching of white persons it ought to be manifestly plain to those in Southern States which still condone the lynching of Negroes that in lynching the double standard cannot be maintained. Either lynching must be stamped out in entirety or white men will be lynched or bloodshed will ensue from defending white men from lynchers.

If the law's majesty is to be upheld its power must reach to and protect the humblest citizen, black or white.

TRY LYNCH 4 WHITES DIE

CONFESSED WHITE MURDERER STILL SAFE IN FLORIDA JAIL—MORE THAN 20 WHITES WOUNDED—TROOPS USE MACHINE GUN TO PROTECT WHITE MURDERER

Tampa, Fla., June 1, 1927 (AP)—Four dead, three others in a serious condition and more than a score wounded marked the three nights of rioting that culminated last night when national guardsmen answered shots from a crowd in the vicinity of the county jail with machine gunfire.

Civil and military officials expressed the belief tonight that the return of violence had been suppressed but every precaution against a recurrence was maintained. Thirty persons were under arrest and held to await action by the grand jury called to meet in special session Monday to investigate the disturbances.

Mob Tries 3 Times

Undismayed by an unsuccessful attempt Sunday night to remove B. F. Levins confessed slayer of five persons, from the county jail, and another attempt Monday night when 12 persons were wounded in a fight with deputy sheriffs, the mob ormed again last night. Four of the 21 persons wounded last night died.

One of the victims, High Edward McRae of Fort Williams, Ont., had stopped to minister to a wounded man lying in the street when a bullet struck him. The other victims were Hal Pifer, 33, of Ocala, Fla., foreman of drivers for a bus line; Earl McGill, an employe of the Sinclair Oil Company, and W. E. Browning, 43.

Troops Protect White Murderer

Col. S. L. Lowry, commanding the 12 companies of guardsmen here, served notice today that "our forces will show the lawless element that we are prepared to cope with it."

Meanwhile residents were called on by a citizens' committee, to remain at home after 9 P. M.

Levins, who said he beat to death Herman Merrell, his wife and three children Saturday with a hammer because he mistook them for members of another family against whom he harbored a grudge, was taken from Tampa Sunday night.

The troops called out yesterday were greeted with flying rocks, eggs and taunts from the crowd. Clashes occurred intermittently until after midnight.

Many civilians treated at hospitals said they were several blocks from the jail when struck by bullets. A. D. Sears, who was shot in the thigh, said he was at home in bed when six bullets tore through his house.

Leonard Thomasson, arrested with Levins, was released today.

RIOTING IN TAMPA IS HELD IN CHECK BY CURFEW LAW

Death List Mounts to Four, With More Than Score Injured and Thirty Held in Jail.

NEW SUSPECT HELD IN TAMPA KILLINGS

Tampa, Fla., June 1.—(AP)—J. R. "Slim" Hudson, 45, a sign painter, was arrested tonight by deputy sheriffs and placed in the county jail for investigation in the wholesale murders of the Merrell family here Saturday morning.

While confessing to murdering five members of the family with a hammer while they slept, B. F. Levins implicated a man he knew only as "Slim." Levins has been spirited out of town for safe-keeping from members of a mob that gathered around the jail for the last three nights.

Tampa, Fla., June 2.—(AP)—After three nights of a virtual reign of terror around the county jail here, the situation was quiet early this morning with more than 1,000 troops guarding an area around the barricaded prison, and civil officers, reinforced by 1,000 specail deputies patrolling the city. 6-2-27 Constitution

All groups of more than three persons on the street after 9 o'clock were dispersed and several were arrested when they acted suspiciously. No firing has been reported all night. Evening Star

Thirty Are Jailed.

Four dead, thre others in a serious condition and more than a score wounded, marked the three nights of rioting that culminated last night when national guardsmen answered shots from a crowd n the vicinity of the county jail with machine gun fire.

Thirty alleged members of the mobs were under arrest and held to await action by the grand jury, called to meet in special session Monday to investigate the disturbances.

Undismayed by an unsuccessful attempt Sunday night to remove B. F. Levins, confessed slayer of five, from the county jail, and another attempt the following night when 12 persons were wounded in a brush with deputy sheriffs, the mob formed again Tuesday night and persisted in its purpose until the troopers' fire had mowed down 21 persons, four of whom subsequently died of their wounds.

Errand of Mercy.

At least one of the victims was on an errand of mercy when he was felled. Hugh Edward McRae, of Fort Williams, Ontario, had stopped to minister to a wounded man lying in the street, when a stray bullet struck him.

The other victims were Hal Pifer, 33, of Ocala, Fla., foreman of drivers for a bus line; Earl McGill, an employee of the Sinclair Oil company, and W. E. Browning, 43.

Colonel S. L. Lowry, commanding the 12 companies of guardsmen here, served cryptic notice today that "our forces will show the lawless element that we are prepared to cope with it." He said that those who fired on the troopers "had murder in their minds and the situation may very well indeed become very serious if mobs are not suppressed, once for all."

Meanwhile residents were called upon by a citizens' committee to remain at home after 9 p. m., as long as trouble threatens.

NEW YORK EVE. POST

13 JUN 2 1927

LYNCHER'S OBJECTIVE. This is B. F. Levins, confessed murderer of five, in whose defense militiamen at Tampa, Fla., have killed three and wounded five would-be lynchers.

P and A Photo

Lynchings - 1927
Prevented

Florida

2525

NEW YORK
EVE. WORLD
JUN 3 1927

CONGRATULATIONS TO FLORIDA

Thanks to the vigorous resistance of the local officials at Tampa, Fla., and the prompt action of Gov. Martin, that State has been spared the disgrace of a lynching. Brutal, unthinkably brutal, as was the crime of the degraded wretch who pounded in the skulls of a family of five, there was no possible excuse for mob violence. The Courts can and doubtless will send him to execution, and if the murderer's life is what the mob required, it will be taken by due process of law and in accordance with the processes of civilization. There was evidently a criminal instinct in the mob.

The troops were promptly sent and were received with rocks, eggs and insults. They maintained the most perfect discipline, exercised the most perfect self-control and it was only when they were fired upon that they opened fire. The result is that four of the mob are dead and others seriously wounded, but the law is vindicated, and the rioting is over.

The days of lynching in the South are numbered. Public officials are showing a keen appreciation of their obligations and troops are sent frequently by Southern Governors where mob violence is threatened. Even now the crime of mob violence is no longer more in evidence in the South than in the North. The duty of opening fire upon a crowd cannot be pleasant. It is inevitable that the merely curious in the crowd may be hurt, but in the crowd is the last place they should have been. When organized society faces a mob in a struggle for supremacy, it is a fight between civilization and barbarism and there can be no weakness.

Gov. Martin of Florida is entitled to congratulations.

SPRINGFIELD, MASS.
Eve. Union
JUN 2 1927

Mob Vengeance Thwarted

The lawlessness and utter disregard for human life which are the natural concomitants of lynch law have been shockingly demonstrated at Tampa, Fla., where since Sunday night a riotous mob has been storming the county jail in an effort to wreak vengeance upon a murderer confined in that institution. The opportune arrival of state troops after the siege had been in progress for twenty-four hours was all that thwarted the purpose of the mob, which was on the point of overcoming the jail defenders when the reinforcements appeared.

In the clashes first with the jail guards and police and afterward with the National Guardsmen at least three members of the mob, have been killed and nineteen others injured, but the mob fury remained unabated and it was necessary yesterday to send additional guardsmen to Tampa to assist the 500 already on duty there. It is long since there has been a similar outbreak of the lynching spirit anywhere in the country and amazement has grown with each succeeding report from the scene of this disgraceful affair.

Strangely enough, in this instance it was not a Negro murderer whose crime incited the lynching fervor of the mob but a white man who had brutally slain a whole family. His crime was fiendish and, according to his reputed confession, unprovoked and futile. He had slain his victims in mistake for another family against which he held a grudge. He was under arrest and in a fair way to pay the extreme penalty for his crime. The duly constituted agencies of the law should be trusted to deal with him as sternly as the nature of his crime demanded. But the mob would not wait for the orderly processes of the law. It undertook to set itself above the law, to usurp the functions of the court and exercise mob vengeance.

There was only one answer to this resort to lawlessness and to the credit of the city and State authorities it was promptly and effectively given. The killing and wounding that resulted are, of course, to be deplored, but these were the legitimate results of the victims' own lawlessness. The lesson apparently was needed, not for Tampa or Florida alone but for all the South and any other regions where obtains the spirit of taking the administration of justice out of the courts.

HOW TAMPA TREATS LYNCHERS

"IT WILL BE A LONG TIME," predicts the Savannah *News*, "before Tampa has another riot." The three nights of conflict about the Hillsborough County jail, in the Florida city, culminating in the deaths of five persons and the wounding of thirty-two others, was "bad business," admits the Baltimore *Evening Sun*, but it would have been worse for the sheriff and the national guardsmen to permit the mob to murder a prisoner in their hands." The officials are receiving commendation in both Northern and Southern dailies on their successful resistance to the Tampa mob during three nights of rioting. They have set an example, we are told, that county authorities throughout the country should emulate. "A little hot lead and a measure of cool courage will have more effect on a mob than months of preaching and volumes of threats," declares the Columbus *Ohio State Journal*. "Only the most severe treatment will cure a mob of its folly," agrees a Southern daily, the Winston-Salem *Sentinel*. To quote the Savannah *News* further:

"The lesson to be learned from the Tampa incident is that mobs gain courage and grow unless they are given a sharp blow when they first begin to gather and before they get the idea that the authorities are afraid of them. Once they get that idea into their heads, it takes time and often bloodshed before the mob spirit gets out of them and they begin to see conditions normally again.

"The Tampa soldiers did not want to fire on their fellow citizens; but their fellow citizens should not try to make the law a joke, and should not fire on the authorities and the troops. The Guard's duty was to defend the law, and altho at the cost of killing and wounding mob members, it did defend the law.

"The mob members took the position that the man they were trying to get was a terrible murderer; but who gave the mob authority to kill him? The law alone, by due process, has that right. Either the laws must be torn up and thrown away or the mob must be defeated."

From Tampa dispatches we learn that a white resident of the city—a self-confessed murderer—had been arrested. The law apparently was moving as rapidly as could be expected, when a mob attacked the jail in which the prisoner was confined. Repulsed, the mob returned the following night, and again the next night. "They had murder in their minds," according to the commanding officer of the militia that was sent by Governor Martin to the scene, "and stern measures were necessary." According to Associated Press dispatches from Tampa, the first of which is dated June 1:

"The rioting started in an effort to lynch B. F. Levins, held responsible for the deaths of Mr. and Mrs. Herman Merrell and three of their children. Saturday night and Sunday night a mob gathered around the jail. It increased Monday night, and in two sallies the jail was attacked, a hole being rammed through the brick wall. Troops were called out Tuesday morning.

"The mob formed again Tuesday night and persisted in its purpose until the troops' fire had mowed down twenty-one persons, four of whom subsequently died of their wounds. The militiamen had posted their infantry guards, with rifles and bayonets. Machine-guns, snipers' nests, tear bombs, and sandbag barricades were set up by guardsmen in their defense of an area surrounding the jail. In addition, mounted troops and artillerymen carrying side arms were patrolling the lines. All traffic was barred from an area four blocks in every direction. Searchlights were brought in play, and held in readiness to forestall another attempt to congregate in the vicinity.

"Sergeant Davis, leading a detail of sixteen soldiers, was felled by a brick hurled by a hoodlum. The sergeant ordered his men to fire their pistols, and six of the mob fell.

"It was estimated that more than 2,000 persons were in the throng which milled about outside a roped-off area on the four sides of the jail, their shouts and curses being punctuated here and there by scattered shots from their own ranks and the rattle of machine-guns and bark of pistols as the guardsmen returned the fire.

"Cavalrymen dashed through the eddying mass of humanity in an effort to scatter the throng, but their frequent sallies failed to do more than open temporary lanes

ATTEMPTS OF MOB TO STORM FLORIDA JAIL IS BLOCKED

Fort Myers, Fla., September 16.—(AP)—The entire police force was called out tonight to quell a disturbance growing out of the unsuccessful efforts of a mob to storm the Lee county jail in search of a negro who today attacked a 50-year-old white woman in her home on the outskirts of the city.

At 12 o'clock everything was quiet and there seemed no indication of further trouble.

The negro, J. A. Jenkins, was identified this afternoon by the woman through a picture.

which quickly were closed again.

"The second clash came after midnight when a mounted trooper was pulled from his horse. Members of the crowd fired into a group of soldiers who ran to his aid, and the troops answered with machine-gun fire. A number of those treated at hospitals said they were several blocks distant from the danger zone at the time they were shot. One victim was at home in bed when six bullets, one of which hit him in the thigh, tore through his house and struck a brick wall next door.

"As darkness fell to-night [June 1] 1,000 deputy sheriffs sworn in at a mass meeting of citizens and officers this afternoon were patrolling the entire city in groups of ten. They had orders to disperse any groups of over three persons."

The fifth victim died in a Tampa hospital on June 6, according to another dispatch. "The nightmare is over, but the experience has been a wholesome one for the Florida city," believes the Grand Rapids *Press*. Continues this Northern paper:

"Tampa has set a salutary example by standing up for a government of law against rule by mob violence.

"First its elected officers and then a force of recruited vigilantes representing the law and order element of this Florida city have stood up to a lynching mob, defeated it, and arrested thirty of the participants. The battle put five victims in the morgue and a host in the hospitals, but the cost is small compared to that when a city or a district gives in to the mob."

"Nor can there be anything but praise for Governor Martin's promptness in sending national guardsmen to protect the Hillsborough County jail," notes the St. Louis *Star*. In the opinion of the Kansas City *Star*, "the mob received the medicine it deserved—machine-gun bullets, tear-gas, and ammonia." Continues this Missouri daily:

"The courageous action of the Tampa officials suggests the course that should be taken in all such cases. Too often officials in charge of prisoners, in jail and out, are half-hearted in defending the persons in their custody and, above all, in defending the law itself. Perhaps in a great majority of cases the mob would never get in its disgraceful work if officers of the law did their duty.

"The Tampa incident suggests, also, that the mob spirit is not simply a manifestation of racial antagonism. The victim sought in this case was white. The offense with which he was charged, that of murdering an entire family, was serious enough. But it called for a speedy trial and a strict execution of justice, not for more lawlessness and crime."

"There can be no two opinions about the propriety of the action of the troops and county officials in repelling the Tampa mob," believes the Norfolk *Virginian-Pilot*. In this Virginia paper's opinion:

"The State of Florida is clearly right and the mob is clearly wrong. It happens that the criminal in this case is a white man. That circumstance may have had something to do with the strenuousness with which the Florida authorities defended him against summary execution, but it ought to have had nothing to do with it. It is the business of organized government to preserve to every person accused of crime the trial rights guaranteed him by the Constitution, and to resist with all the power at its command any effort to rob a person of these rights.

"The business of lynching is no longer the safe sport that it used to be. It is coming to be recognized as something inexpressibly foul, to be proceeded against, prevented or punished at all costs. Something of this new spirit is behind Florida's stern challenge to mob rule at Tampa. It is in the last degree regrettable that this course has involved the death of several persons, some of them innocent onlookers, but the authorities are not to be blamed."

THE MAN WHO STOPT THE MOB

L. M. Hiers, sheriff of Hillsborough County, Florida, of which Tampa is the county-seat.

P. & A. photograph

TAMPA'S $300,000 MOB-PROOF JAIL

Battered by a huge stick of timber, hauled to the scene by a truck, and handled by fifty members of the mob which sought to lynch a confessed murderer, and its windows riddled with bullets, the Hillsborough County jail nevertheless held off the besiegers, altho they returned to the attack three nights in succession.

P. & A. photograph

THE SHERIFF'S AUTOMOBILE

And that of one of his deputies. These were parked in front of the Tampa jail when the mob stormed the structure in an attempt to lynch one of the prisoners, and were burned by the mob.

"Cold steel and hot lead," thinks the Macon *Telegraph*, "will do more to cure lynchings than anything that could happen." In the St. Joseph *News-Press* we learn that—

"Most Southern States are manifesting a wholesome disposition to discourage the practise of lynching. They wish to redeem their reputation for law and order, but more especially they wish to prevent anything in the way of a Federal anti-lynching law, which they believe would be an encroachment upon the principle of States' rights. They are opposed to such legislation as that contemplated in the Dyer bill, which may be reintroduced in the next Congress, and to justify this opposition they are demonstrating that there is no necessity for outside law to step in."

In the opinion of the Houston *Post-Dispatch:*

"The law-abiding people of the South need to bring the strongest possible pressure to bear upon peace officers, grand juries, and other servants of the State.

"They should demand that peace officers defend prisoners against mob violence, to the last ditch, as the officers at Tampa did; 'shooting to kill' whenever necessary. They should demand that attempted mob violence be drastically punished, no matter if the attempts were not successful.

"Rigid State laws providing that any peace officer who surrenders a prisoner to a mob be automatically thrown out of office are needed.

"Mob violence is by no means confined to the South, but it occurs most frequently in Southern States. Unless the people of the South can stamp out lynching, they will have nobody except themselves to blame if the Federal Government takes the lynching question into its own hands."

Lynchings-1927
Prevented

General.

2517

BULLETIN
Bloomington Ill
JUN 20 1927

STILL A MAN'S JOB

Sometimes, when a campaign is on, they tell you that the sheriff's office these days is merely a business administrative job and insist that you vote for a candidate just because he's a good fellow. But some recent news items indicate that the sheriff's job is still a he-man's job.

In Meridian, Miss., a sheriff fights a mob to prevent the burning at the stake of two negroes. Twenty-five miles south of Tulsa, Okla., a sheriff's posse closes in on a spectacular bandit who had kidnaped a town marshal and roped him to a tree with a pistol belt. In Joliet, Ill., Sheriff Markgraff toys with the steering wheel of his car while bandits press the muzzle of a pistol into his sides. The sheriff nods his head to his deputies, ordering them to fire at the bandits so close to him.

Life isn't so placid in this country even yet that the sheriff can be merely a good politician or the policeman only a payroll person. We still need nerve, physique and intelligence in the men who maintain the peace.

Lynchings-1927
Prevented.

Georgia

2499

NEW YORK EVENING TELEGRAM & MAIL

JUL 25 1927

AVERT NEGRO LYNCHING

By the United Press.

MACON, Ga., July 25.—Three negroes were jailed yesterday, charged with the murder of W. T. Andrews and the wounding of Mrs. Andrews.

Andrews and his wife were shot by a negro to whom he had given a ride in his automobile. William Galloway, William Rountree and Mose Banks were arrested on descriptions by Mrs. Andrews.

SHERIFF'S MOVE SAVE THREE MEN FROM ANGRY MOB

Incoherent Story Of Woman Partial Identification Is All Obtained

MACON, Ga., Aug. 3.—Wilmer Galloway and two other colored men whose names have not been revealed were saved from a mob of 1,000 persons near Mila Sunday after having been identified by Mrs. W. T. Galloway as the ones who had killed her husband, robbed the body and then criminally assaulted her. They were spirited away to the Bibb County jail when the mob formed and prepared to storm the Telfair county jail.

The three men were arrested immediately after the report of the killing was learned. One of th mn, the shriff said, has smeared his hands and feet with tar often used by criminals of both races in their attempt to throw blood hounds off their taril.

Ask For A Ride.

According to the story of Mrs. Andrews who is now said to be in a critical condition in the Eastman hospital she and her husband were en route to Perry, Florida when they were confronted by two men who asked them for a ride to their shanty. Without receiving permission, Mrs. Andrews stated, one man entered the car while the othe rstood on the running board.

Upon their arrival at the shanty they refused to get off of the auto and one, whom the woman claims was Calloway, shot and killed her husband and then rifled his pockets of $150. She said she was felled by a blow which knocked her unconscious and then they fled.

When she revived, she said, she made her way to a farm house nearby where the alarm was sent into the authorities.

An arme dposse was formed and they found the men in a shanty in the woods nearbv.

3 Negroes Saved from Mob in Georgia Killing

Macon, Ga., July 24.—(AP)—Three Negroes, alleged to have shot and killed W. T. Andrews and to have seriously wounded Mrs. Andrews early this morning at their residence at Alamo, Ga., were brought here today to escape violence from a mob that quickly formed as word of the slaying spread.

FARMER SLAIN AND BODY BURIED

Negro Confesses, Officers Say, He Killed W. H. Howell Near McRae. Robbery Seen as Motive

McRae, Ga., October 3.—(AP)—W. H. Howell, 66, prominent farmer of Achord, a small station on the Southern railroad near here, was found buried today, after having been missing since Saturday morning. Willie Thomas, negro, has admitted killing him and burying his body.

Howell has been missing from home since Saturday. Tom Whittley, a neighbor, saw him at 9 o'clock that morning. When he did not appear at home Sunday an intensive search was instituted for him, with the result that his body was found at noon today buried about 150 yards from the house, with evidences of violence appearing, which afterwards were determined as a shot in the back of the head and another in the front of the neck.

Thomas was brought into the case when he attempted to trade an automobile for another here in McRae this morning. It was recognized as Howell's car. He made the trade, but as he was returning home Arthur Clements, a woods rider for F. L. Dyal, apprehended him and brought him to McRae.

Officers here, fearing mob violence, loaded Thomas into a car and took him to Eastman. On the way there he confessed to Officers Ben Williams, Matt Long and Cleve Rogers that he had killed the aged farmer, and implicated two other negroes.

It was first said that the two negroes had not been in this vicinity for at least 10 days, but late tonight it was stated that officers had obtained additional information that implicated at least one of them.

Mob Gathered.

When officers left here with the negro a mob gathered and for a while it seemed that they might take him from his guards. But the officers pleaded and relatives of the slain man begged them to let the law take its course, and the guards were allowed to proceed to Eastman with their prisoner. This was before the negro had confessed the crime and the officers pleaded that they wanted to get additional information from the man.

Thomas worked on an adjoining farm to his victim. Robbery is the only motive that has been established. Howell at one time was one of the richest men in this section, although he has suffered reverses lately that have greatly depleted his fortune. Thomas said he got only a shoestring and 20 cents off Howell's body. The negro has only recently come into this community. He is about 25 years old.

Mr. Howell came to this section about 45 years ago, and from Holland, Va. He was a nephew of the late C. B. Parker, of McRae, one of the richest and most influential men of his section. Being a bachelor, he lived more or less the life of a recluse. During the last few years he lost quite a bit of his fortune in bank failures, and in the failure of a naval store business in which he had a large interest.

Surviving him are two half-sisters Miss Alie Doughtry and Mrs. Susie Graham, of Lenox, Ga.; two half brothers, C. B. Doughtry, of Lenox and A. P. Doughtry, of Holland, Va. and five cousins, Mrs. Max L. McRae Mrs. E. F. McRae, Henry and Pete Griffith and A. J. Ellis, all of McRae.

Funeral services have not been announced.

GEORGIA FARMER HELD IN MURDER

Eastman, Ga., October 4.—(AP)—With a rope around his neck, ready to pay the penalty of mob law for the murder of W. H. Howell, wealthy farmer, who lived the life of a recluse near here, Willie Thomas, negro, was saved from hanging late last night when he made a confession implicating Tom Buchanan, 28, farmer, and a member of a prominent family in Dodge county. Buchanan was arrested shortly after the negro's statement and spirited away by Sheriff C. M. Mullis, where he now is confined in an unnamed jail.

Thomas was arrested late yesterday by Sheriff Mullis, after the body of Howell was discovered in a shallow grave on his farm. The negro confessed to the killing, which he said occurred Saturday afternoon.

The negro is being confined in a cell in the Dodge county courthouse, which is used to house prisoners while their trials are under way. The prisoner was being guarded by Deputy Sheriff W. J. Brown.

500 Take Negro.

According to the story told by the deputy this morning, he said that a mob of more than 500 persons, which was composed entirely of men, approached him in the court house and demanded the keys to the negro's cell. The deputy refused to turn over the keys and he was instantly grabbed from behind and the keys were forcibly taken from him.

The mob then carried the negro about five miles in the country and prepared to take his life. With the noose around his neck, and the other end of the rope dangling over a limb, they asked the negro if he had anything to say, and it was then he charged, according to the deputy, that he had been hired by Buchanan to aid in slaying Howell.

Cooler heads in the mob then prevailed upon other members of the mob to let the law take its course, and the noose was removed and the negro was taken back to jail.

According to Sheriff Mullis, when Buchanan was taken into custody he denied all knowledge of the slaying and said he was unacquainted with the negro Thomas.

Plans Well Laid.

The negro in his story to Sheriff Mullis this morning, said that all plans for the slaying of Howell had been prearranged by Buchanan. A shallow grave was dug in one of the fields near Howell's home and both he and Buchanan carried shotguns to kill the farmer. They sighted him while he was approaching his house, after working in the fields, said Thomas, and Buchanan ordered him to go to Howell and tell him that several of Buchanan's hogs were in Howell's fields, and ask him to help in capturing them, the negro continued.

When Howell approached the spot where the grave had been dug the negro opened fire and Howell fell, said the negro. "While he was lying on the ground Buchanan then fired," the negro told the sheriff. "We then picked him up, placed him in the grave and piled dirt and corn shucks over him and then hurried away," said Thomas.

Thomas told the sheriff that Buchanan wanted Howell out of the way because he was an eyewitness to his attempt to shoot a Telfair county deputy, which occurred about six months ago. Buchanan was indicted for attempting to take the life of the deputy. His trial was scheduled to take place at the November term of the Telfair superior court. Buchanan was making his home with Howell at the time he attempted to shoot the deputy, according to Sheriff Mullis.

Price for Slaying.

The negro also said that he was to receive $150 and a cut-down automobile for his part in the slaying.

Howell's body was found in a crude shallow grave in a clump of trees near his home. He was reputed to be very wealthy. He was a bachelor and is survived by two half-brothers and one sister.

The trial of the two men is expected to be held early next week as the Dodge superior court will be convened Monday and it is expected that the case will be the first one presented to the grand jury when it convenes.

Funeral services for Howell were held at McRae, Ga., this afternoon. Rev. B. E. Whittington, pastor of the Methodist church in McRae, officiating.

JASPER NEGRO TO DIE IN CHAIR

Macon, Ga., October 21.—(AP)—George Clarke, Jasper county negro, was found guilty of criminal assault on a prominent Jasper county woman by a jury in Bibb superior court this afternoon and sentenced to die in the electric chair on November 11. Judge J. B. Park pronounced the sentence.

Only one hour and a half was required to try the negro. All the evidence was presented in an hour and attorneys on neither side argued the case.

Judge J. B. Park who set the case for trial in Macon, presided and the prosecution was conducted by Solicitor Joe D[illegible] of the Dublin circuit. Clarke was captured two days after the crime was committed and brought here for safekeeping. The assault occurred two weeks ago.

Lynchings-1927
Prevented.

Illinois.

2518

Youth Saved from Mob by Police Squads

Police and plain clothes men from the detective bureau and the Maxwell street station early last evening had to fight their way with drawn revolvers througha mob of 500 Italians who had gathered around a ramshackle tenement at 601 Gilpin place, in the heart of the west side Italian quarter, shouting wildly for the blood of Jose Guterez, a 22 year old Mexican.

Guterez, who a few minutes earlier had set upon Dominick Custable, 18 years old, and cut him badly about the face and hands with a knife, had barricaded himself in a third floor flat in the besieged building.

Bricks Hurled into Building.

Bricks were flying through the air and into the windows of the building and several of the mob had invaded the stairway in an attempt to break down the doors, when the police arrived.

Fighting their way slowly through the crowd with their prisoner surrounded, Sergts. Frank McDonals, Harry O'Connell, James Quinn, and James Shields, reinforced by other policemen from the Maxwell street station, managed to get free with their prisoner.

Some of the detectives and policemen used clubs on the heads of the excited mob, while others belabored about them freely with their police revolvers in getting the Mexican through. Meantime more police arrived to disperse the gathering crowds, for riot calls had been sent into both the station and to the bureau.

Story of the Attack.

The best story of the start of the trouble the police coud obtain was that Custable had been washing his automobile in front of 609 Gilpin place when the Mexican came along. Several other youthful Italians stood near in a group watching Custable.

As Guterez, on his way to visit friends in the flat in which he later took refuge, passed, one of the Italians made a sneering remark at him. The Mexican resented it. Some of the Italians, including Custable, started to fight him. He drew a knife and cut Custable, and in a few moments a crowd had gathered.

REGISTER
SPRINGFIELD, ILL.

JUN 12 1927

GANG LEADER BROUGHT HERE AFTER THREAT OF LYNCHING

"Looks Like Rope or Suicide With Newman Squawking," Says Gangster.

Charlie Birger, notorious southern Illinois gangster under three indictments for murder, was brought to the Sangamon county jail Saturday evening for safe keeping after formation of a mob of Williamson county men, with lynching in view, had been threatened. Birger was indicted in Washington county Saturday along with four fellow gangsters, on charges of killing Lory Price, state motorcycle policeman. He is already under indictment for killing Mayor Joe Adams of West City and is reported to have been indicted for killing Mrs. Lory Price on the same night that her husband was slain.

"Looks Like Rope."

"With Art Newman squawking it looks like its the rope or suicide for me," Birger told officials who brought him here.

Birger in the Sangamon county jail can look through the windows and see the old saloon at the southwest corner of Seventh and Madison streets where he worked twenty years ago while picking up his first lessons in crime in Springfield's underworld. Birger was once a saloon hanger-on and gambler in Springfield. While here he was also suspected of dabbling in the dope traffic.

Birger was rushed here from Benton by automobile under guard of Sheriff James Pritchard and three deputies after threats had been made yesterday afternoon to lynch him. The threats were made after Art Newman, formerly Birger's chief lieutenant, appeared before the Washington county grand jury and, in a complete confession, blamed Birger for the killing of Lory Price and his wife. The story of the confession was carried in Saturday's State Register. Indicted with Birger were Connie Ritter, Ernest Blue, Leslie Simpson and Riley Simmons, four gangsters whose names mean as much in southern Illinois as

(Turn to Page 2, Part I.)

"Scarface" Al Capone, O'Banion etc., mean to Chicago.

Immediately after he was lodged in the county jail here, two extra deputies, Thomas O'Brien and Alex McMurdo were assigned to guard him in order to prevent an escape.

Birger asked that he be locked up immediately when brought into jail and refused to talk to newspaper men.

As Birger was searched, Chief Deputy Jean Saner asked him if he had any hidden machine guns.

"Oh! no," Birger replied.

"Well you see we don't let prisoners keep them here," Saner replied referring to a recent picture of Birger sitting in a county jail in southern Illinois with a machine gun across his knees.

Birger shrugged his shoulders and evidenced a desire not to talk.

Mention of Art Newman's name brought forth the declaration that Newman "was a rat."

He expressed the belief that his old enemies the Shelton brothers, who were tried in the federal court for robbing the Collinsville post office and then released when Harve Dungy, a government witness, admitted that he had perjured himself under threats of death, would go free.

"It doesn't look like they'll be tried again," Birger said, then lapsed into brooding silence, evidently dejected as he contemplated the series of murder trials that awaits him.

MOB IN CHICAGO TRIES LYNCHING

Officer Fights to Save Victim of White Fiends

CHICAGO, Dec. 21. —A mob of 500 mad white person were prevented from lynching Carson Martin, 28 years old, of 4859 Federal St., only by the alertness of a white policeman, Howard Meisner.

Martin was suddenly set upon by the crowd at Twenty-sixth St. and Wentworth Ave. Monday. He had spoken to two white children who were skating on a pond. Several white youths saw him and yelled "this nig— is annoying these kids, lets get him."

The fiendish crowd seized Martin. They struck him with hockey sticks and kicked him with their steel skates. Patrolman Meisner fought through the crowd to the man and dragged him through a gauntlet of men, women and children who rained blows upon him. He reached a telephone box and called for reserves, but he was forced to fight with the mobbist for fifteen minutes before the arrival of a patrol.

Lynchings-1927
Prevented

Indiana.

2519

PASTOR EXHORTS FRIENDS OF SLAIN MAN NOT TO MOB

Logansport, Ind., Feb. 20.—[Special.]—Preaching at the bier of John Baker who was murdered by a fiendish robber, the Rev. F. J. Dunkhaven counselled the six hundred people at the funeral services against mob violence should the murderer be taken into custody.

Feeling has been intense since the night the robber entered the home of Baker, robbed him of fifteen dollars and then set fire to his clothing after saturating them with gasoline. Baker died three days after the attack.

Among the witnesses to be examined by the grand jury Monday will be Miss Selma Fritch, 30, a neighbor, who has offered for probate a will claimed by her to have been left by Baker in which she is named the sole beneficiary to Baker's $25,000 estate. Relatives of Baker have entered objections to the document.

Lynchings-1927
Prevented

Kansas.

2520

TROOPS QUELL RACE RIOT

(By The Associated Negro Press).

Coffeyville, Kan., March 22.—A race riot which was destined to reach serious proportions was nipped in the bud here Saturday by the prompt action of the civil and military authorities, but not before four whites had been shot down and several Negroes beaten.

The race war was precipitated when a mob which previously stormed the city hall and jail in the effort to take three Negroes suspected of criminally assaulting two white girls, attempted to enter the Negro section of the city. Determined not to be terrorized by the whites, the Negroes met the invaders at the outskirts of the neighborhood and greeted them with bullets, shooting down four before troops appeared on the scene.

The State militia soon had the situation in hand and was patrolling the streets of the city, keeping them cleared of peoplle and closing all theaters, cafes, and other gathering places. Running true to form the first step taken after the trouble had subsided, was the searching of Negroes for arms. This alleged action was protested by Negro leaders and was denied by the troopers.

Ridicule American Flag.

The mob that caused the trouble 1,000 strong stormed the jail and city hall, bent upon lynching Curtis Smith and two other Negroes. The braev men were met with a barage of tear-gas bombs which dispersed them for a time. Returning they hurled stones through the windows o fthe city hall and jail and laughed derisievly at the American flag wavfrom one of the front windows of the city hall.

The courage of the officers in charge of the prisoners prevented a lynching and those who believe in law and order were lour in their praise of the bravery shown by the officers in defying the mob. tI has been reported that the three prisoners, who barely escaped lynching, have been released because of the failure of the girls to identify them as their assailants.

Coffeyville is situated on the Oklahoma State line. Here Jim Crow begins. Even during the Civil War it numbered among its residents many rebel adherents and was the strong hold of bourbonism during the days of '66.

OFFICIALS OUTWIT ANGRY KANSAS MOB

Smuggle Out of Coffeyville Jail Three Negroes Arrested for Attack on Schoolgirls.

COFFEYVILLE, Kan., March 18 (AP).—A mob of 1,000 persons, which gathered about the city jail here tonight uttering threats against three negroes arrested in connection with an attack on two white high school girls early today, was outwitted by county and city officers, who smuggled the prisoners out of the building.

Authorities announced that two of the negroes, Vanges and Garvin Hardin, brothers, had cleared themselves and were released from custody.

The third suspect, Curtis Smith, a barber, was taken away on a fire truck, hidden beneath a pile of hose, and rushed to an unrevealed destination. He is being held for further investigation.

The mob surged about the building muttering threats, while armed Deputy Sheriffs and policemen and twenty deputized civilians held the three entrances to the jail. A fire hose, attached to a pumper, was placed at the main door, ready to be turned on should the crowd attempt to rush the entrance.

NEW YORK
SUN and GLOBE

MAR 19 1927

Kansas Troops Called Out To Save Negroes From Mob

Race Riot Starts in Coffeyville Following Attack on White Girls—Stores Looted for Arms.

COFFEYVILLE, Kan., March 19 (A. P.).—A race riot in which three persons were injured when a mob of more than a thousand men and women stormed the city jail in an effort to remove three negroes held for attacking two white girls was under control to-day with National Guardsmen patroling the streets to enforce military rule.

Infuriated by reports of the attacks on the girls yesterday afternoon, groups of men followed officers about the city in the search for the negroes. Bloodhounds soon took up a trail that led to a frame house. A large crowd surrounded the building which officers announced was vacant, in an effort to disperse the mob.

The ruse failed and after reenforcements arrived, the officers escorted three negroes from the house. By moving slowly through the crowd they took the prisoners to the city jail without incident.

Women and children joined the crowd at the jail, where youths encouraged by older persons started stoning it. Police and sheriff's deputies were posted at all entrances and spokesmen for the authorities attempted to persuade the crowd to disperse.

Riot in Negro Section.

When leaders of the mob were informed that the negroes were not in the jail groups left the throng to invade the negro quarter, where upward of four thousand colored persons live. Several fist fights occurred between whites and blacks and sporadic firing began.

William Waddle, 17 years old, a printer's apprentice, was struck in the legs by a charge of buckshot and received a pistol bullet through an arm. The shots were fired by negroes who came to the rescue of one of their race who had been severely beaten. R. C. Walton, 45, a foundry foreman, was injured in the rush to safety as the firing increased.

As Waddle hurried through the streets to his office many saw the blood from his wounds, and men rushed to hardware stores to obtain guns and ammunition. When they found the doors locked they broke into the stores and obtained shotguns and ammunition.

Troop B, local National Guard Cavalry, appeared during the firing. The forty-odd men of the troop scattered through the streets, wearing steel helmets and full war equipment. The sight of the soldiers had a quieting effect on many of the mob, but others jeered. Many windows were shattered by stray bullets.

Fire Hose Cut Up.

Soldiers then mounted guard over hardware stores and the whites deserted the negro quarter to return to the jail. A fire hose strung through the City Hall to aid in repulsing attacks on the jail was cut up and carried away.

Officers told the mob that two of the negroes had been exonerated and released, while the third, Curtis Smith, 33, had been removed from the jail on the fire truck which brought the hose.

Youths led by men then rushed for filling stations to obtain gasoline to set fire to the jail. The stations had been closed and they returned empty handed. An American flag was then displayed from a City Hall window. The mob jeered. Messages from State officials imploring the people to avoid bloodshed met with similar response.

The mob continued to demand Vanges and Garvin Hardin, brothers, the two negroes who were released as well as Smith. Nearly 1,500 persons had assembled at dusk when rain started and increased from a drizzle to sufficient volume to cause many to leave the jail.

Word was then received that Company A of Iola and Company G of Yates Center, units of the 117th Cavalry, Kansas National Guard, had been mobilized and would arrive this morning. The mob began to break up shortly before midnight, and only a few remained at 1 o'clock.

Soldiers Restore Order.

The soldiers went about breaking up small groups and apparently had the situation well under control.

Smith was said to have been removed from the jail during the firing and was reported to have been taken to another city this morning.

Soldiers searched those who remained on the streets, and arrested several youths suspected of leading the attack on hardware stores. Some of the guns taken from the stores were recovered and confiscated. Authorities indicated no more troops would be asked unless further rioting occurred.

Robert Liggins, a negro watchman, was arrested by the guardsmen and held on the belief that he fired the first shot.

It was the first racial disturbance Coffeyville, a city of about 20,000 population, had experienced in more than twenty years.

A minor clash occurred at the Santa Fe station here twenty odd years ago at a Fourth of July celebration. About forty white persons and negroes engaged in the encounter in which clubs and stones were used but no one was injured severely.

Lynchings – 1927
Prevented

Kentucky.

2503

SHERIFF GIVEN MEDAL FOR SAVING MAN FROM MOB

FRANKFORT, Ky., April 19.—Sheriff P. R. Brown of Graves County, who in 1926 saved a Negro from mob violence at Mayfield Ky., has been awarded a medal by the Southern Inter-racial Commission, Governor Fields announced today. The award was the first of its kind to be made in Kentucky, and Governor Fields, in sending the medal to Brown in behalf of the commission, congratulated him upon "splendid service" he had rendered his state and nation.

The bronze medal bears a heroic figure with drawn sword standing in front of a temple of justice, surrounded by the legend "In Defense of Law and Civilization." The award was passed upon by a commission composed of Hon. Hugh M. Dorsey, former Governor of Georgia, Governor John W. Martin, of Florida, the late Governor Henry L. Whitfield of Mississippi, Mrs. J. H. McCoy of Alabama, George B. Dealey, editor of the Dallas News, and Marshall Ballard, editor of the New Orleans Item.

When on June 21, of 1926, a mob gathered about the Mayfield jail to get Willie Busby, Negro, charged with attacking a white girl, Brown gathered up his deputies and drove seventy-five miles at night through two rivers to carry the Negro to safety.

SHERIFF IS GIVEN MEDAL FOR SAVING NEGRO FROM MOB

Frankfort, Ky., April 19.—Sheriff P. R. Brown, of Graves County, who in 1926 saved a Negro from mob violence at Mayfield, Ky., has been awarded a medal by the Southern Interracial Commission, Governor Fields announced today. The award was the first of its kind to be made in Kentucky, and Governor Fields, in sending the medal to Brown in behalf of the Commission, congratulated him upon the "splendid service" he had rendered his state and nation.

The handsome bronze medal bears a heroic figure with drawn sword standing in front of a temple of justice, surrounded by the legend "In Defense of Law and Civilization." The award was passed upon by a commission composed of Hon. Hugn M. Dorsey former Governor of Georgia; Governor John W. Martin, of Florida; the late Governor Henry L. Whitfield, of Mississippi; Mrs. J. H. McCoy, of Alabama, George B. Dealey, editor of the Dallas News, and Marshall Ballard, editor of the New Orleans Item.

When on June 21, of 1926, a mob gathered about the Mayfield jail to get Willie Busby, Negro, charged with attacking a white girl, Brown gathered up his deputies and drove seventy-five miles at night through two rivers to carry the Negro to safety.

The awarding of these medals by the Interracial Commissions to sheriffs who are brave and honest enough to try to stamp out mob rule in this country has done much toward furnishing an incentive for sheriffs to perform their full duty in cases of mob violence.

Dr. Spence Wins Signal Victory

Dr. C. A. Spence, Atlanta dentist, through his attorney, Capt. A. T. Walden, won a signal victory for the rights of Negroes in the courts of Georgia, when on Thursday, April 21, a jury of his peers pronounced him "not guilty" of inciting to riot before a tense group of spectators.

Dr. Spence was indicated jointly with J. P. Lewis, a mere strip of an Atlanta boy, for inciting to riot on the night of October 4, 1926, on an Ashby Street West Hunter car, when a conductor said he failed to get as many fares as he had passengers. Testimony showed in both the lower and higher courts, that these Colored passengers tried to avert trouble; that the Colored passengers were brutally dealt with by both the conductor and police.

Austin T. Walden, senior member of the firm of Walden & Ricks threw down the gauntlet to opposing counsel and waded into the case with characteristic expression of a broad knowledge of the law, analysis of the case and plea to the jury in vigorous, choice English that made the State's case look weak indeed. His examination of the State's witnesses was so thorough, his mind so alert to each move against his clients and his personality so overawing that no spectator doubted for a moment the outcome, unless pure racial prejudice, which readily sought expression, but was as readily nipped in its bud by Capt. Walden, had been allowed to triumph.

TROOPS STOP KY. MOB ON XMAS DAY

Disperse 500 Whites Seeking to Lynch a Negro

PIKEVILLE, Ky., December 25.—Christmas day in this section was turned into a scene resembling that of military forces preparing for warfare as the result of a hasty order for National Guardsmen to disperse a mob of 500 whites who searched all day Friday and Saturday for a colored man alleged to have slain a white miner. The victim sought, Homer Mitchell, 42 years old, was alledged to have shot the miner following an argument.

Gov. F. D. Sampson fearing a recurrence of a mob killing such as that which took place in Kentucky recently ordered the soldiers out as soon as he learned of the menace

Lynchings - 1927
Prevented

Louisiana

2582

JOCKEY SAVED FROM LYNCHING

NEW ORLEANS, LA., JAN., (A NP.)—Press dispatches from Jennings, La., bring the information that a jockey narrowly escaped with his life for alleged rough-riding at the Jennings race track fair grounds Christmas day. It is alleged that the jockey, riding Dempsey owned by Dave Spell of Opelousas, crowded a white jockey too near the rail when he fell and received a broken collar bone. Alarmed by threats of the crowd he dashed to the stable where Spell, Dean Rasberry of Iota, and Will Spiards, of Texas, white men, are said to have drawn pistols to protect him. They were arrested on charges of carrying concealed weapons.

The jockey was hurried out of town to prevent a lynching.

OFFICERS REWARDED FOR PRE VENTING LYNCHING

(By The A. N. P.)

Alexandria, La., July 3 -- For saving Joe Hardy, a Negro prisoner, from a mob bent on lynching him, Sheriff U. T. Downs and Jailer W. G. Penny, of this city, were publicly honored here last Sunday by a great popular mass meeting, at which their courage and faithfulness were lauded by distinguished speakers and handsome bronze medals were awarded them. The meeting was held in the First Baptist Church at the morning preaching hour, and was featured by a sermon suited to the occasion by the pastor, Rev. Carl DeVane.

The presentation of the medals was made by Hon. T. W. Holloman, prominent attorney. The medals were provided by the Commission on Interracial Cooperation and were awarded by a committee composed of Hon. Hugh M. Dorsey, former governor of Georgia, Gov. John W. Martin of Florida, Mrs. J. H. McCoy of Alabama, George B. Dealey, president of the Dallas News, and Marshall Ballard, editor of the New Orleans Item.

MEDALS PRESENTED TWO FOR STOPPING LYNCHING

Southern Inter-Racial Cooperation Body Decorates Officers

ALEXANDRIA, LA., July 3—(AP)—Sheriff U. T. Downs and Jailer W. G. Penny, of Rapides parish, were presented with medals here today by the Southern Commission on Inter-Racial Cooperation for their efforts in preventing the lynching of a negro prisoner a year ago.

The award was made at Emmanuel Baptist church after the pastor, Rev. Carl DeVane, had delivered a sermon on Christianity and the law.

The award was presented to the two men in tribute to their courage and resourcefulness, on February 1, 1926, when they prveented the threatened lynching of a prisoner, Joe Hardy.

The two prevented the lynching in February, 1926, when a mob assembled to take Joe Hardy, charged with killing a Red river parish planter.

LOUISIANA SHERIFF AND JAILER DECORATED IN CHURCH FOR COURAGE

Sheriff U. T. Downs, left; and W. G. Penny, jailer, of Rapides parish, Louisiana, shown on the right in the picture, were presented with handsome bronze medals Sunday, July 3, before the assembled members of the First Baptist church. The general public of Alexandria thronged the church to witness the presentation, for which the pastor, the Rev. Carl DeVane gave up his morning service. The presentation was made by the Hon. T. W. Holloman, and the Rev. DeVane made the presentation speech. Greetings also were sent the two recipients by Governor Simpson.

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PUBLIC HONOR FOR SHERIFF WHO SAVED MAN FROM LYNCHING

ALEXANDRIA, La., July 12—For saving Joe Hardy, a Negro prisoner, from a mob bent on lynching him Sheriff U. T. Downs, and Jailer W. G. Penny, of this city, were publicly honored here last Sunday by a graet popular mass meeting, at which their courage and faithfulness were lauded by distinguished speakers, and handsome bronze medals were awarded them. The meeting was held in the First Baptist Church at the morning preaching hour, and was featured by a sermon suited to the occasion by the pastor, Rev. Carl DeVane.

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In 1925 the commission authorized the preparation of medals to be conferred on officers successfully resisting mobs. Up to the present awards have been made in eight cases, and several others are now under investigation. In the Alexandria case, members of the mob went to the jail on February 1st of last year and demanded that Joe Hardy, Negro prisoner, charged with the murder of a Louisiana planter, be turned over to them. Jailer Penny flatly refused and sent a hurry call to Sheriff Downs, who rushed to the scene and told the mob that the prisoner would be protected at all costs and advised them not to start anything. Convinced that the officers meant business, the mob dispersed.

LOUISIANA OFFICERS GET MEDAL FOR PREVENTING LYNCHING

Alexandria, La., July 9.—For saving Joe Hardy, a Negro prisoner, from a mob bent on lynching him, Sheriff U. T. Downs and Jailer W. G. Penny of this city, were publicly honored here last Sunday by a great popular mass meeting, at which their courage and faithfulness were lauded by distinguished speakers and handsome bronze medals were awarded them. The meeting was held in the First Baptist Church at the morning preaching hour, and was featured by a sermon suited to the occasion by the pastor, Rev. Carl DeVane.

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3

Lynchings - 1927
Prevented

Maryland.

2521

Spirit Two Away From Danger of Lynching Mob

Washington, D. C., Jan. 14.—Arthur Swann and Otie Simmons, 19-year-old youths, were spirited away from the La Plata jail at Marbury, Md., to Baltimore last Saturday for safe keeping after it was heard that the men had confessed that they had killed J. Edward Carpenter (white). Fear of mob violence caused the sheriff to remove the men after the town had reached a feverish pitch of excitement.

Swann and Simmons were arrested as the alleged slayer of Carpenter after bloodhounds led a posse of 100 men to the homes of the two men near Chicamuxen. Blood-stained clothing and a large amount of currency is said to have been found at the homes of the accused men. Carpenter was found slain in a lonely spot on the Marbury road leading to his home after midnight last Thursday.

MOB MENACES NEGRO SUSPECTS AFTER KILLING

La Plata, Md., January 8.—Two negro suspects held for the murder of Edward J. Carpenter of Marbury, were removed to Baltimore this afternoon after large crowds began to gather around the county jail and courthouse.

Carpenter, employed at Indian Head reservation, was found shot through the head yesterday by workmen on their way to the government powder mill. His pay envelope containing $91 was missing.

The two negro suspects gave their names as Oli Simmons and Arthur Swan.

Marvland Officers Prevent Lynching

Frederick, Md.—Eluding would-be lynchers, a posse spirited William H. Rofs, a young Negro, to the Frederick jail following his arest on a charge of having murdered Mrs. Lottie L. McElfresh, wife of his employer.

The murder was the most revolting one in the history of this section, the slayer having horribly mutilated the body with an axe, cutting off the head and all limbs.

Ross, his clothes drenched with blood, was found hiding in a swamp along the Monocacy River nearby. The posse was forced to fire several shots to frustate the attempt of aroused townspeople to take the law into their own hands.

NEW YORK CITY
SUN and GLOBE
JUN 14 1927

Negro Murder Suspect Kept Safe From Mob

BALTIMORE, June 14 (A. P.).—Fearing that infuriated residents might storm the Frederick county jail and attempt a lynching Sheriff William C. Roderick brought Henry Ross, 23 years old, a negro, alleged murderer of Mrs. Lottie L. McElfresh, 38, near Thurmont yesterday, to the Baltimore city jail. Ross, authorities allege, killed Mrs. McElfresh with an ax after he had been thwarted in an attempted assault. Her body was found in the yard of their home by her husband, Dorsey McElfresh, county road foreman, when he returned for lunch.

Ross was suspected. A sheriff's posse found him hiding behind a pile of driftwood on the bank of the Monocacy River. A pistol cracked and two fingers on the hand of one of the posse were shot off. It is believed the shot was intended for the negro.

Negro Murder Suspect Kept Safe from Mob

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Lynchings - 1927
Prevented

Massachusetts.

2522

REFUSING TO LEARN FROM EXPERIENCE

The ingrained, not innate, race arrogance, hence race hatred, in white people of these U. S. A. is surprisingly revealed again by white daily newspapers in Los Angeles, California. This is so blind in view of the lynchings so caused which have disgraced and injured cities both North and South.

The Pacific Coast News Bureau, whose excessive use of the term "Negro" in its excellent news releases is the Bureau's chief fault thus unintentionally aiding race prejudice by a too drastic differentiation by race, does us all a benefit by publishing the following from the L.A. Daily Express after two colored detectives had arrested four colored suspects in Sacramento:

"Transportation of the prisoners to Los Angeles is a matter that is causing some concern. Feeling against the Negroes is running at high pitch and Chief Cline fears mob violence as the police car comes over the highway towards Los Angeles. Cline said that if an infuriated mob started for the prisoners he was afraid the policemen guarding them would have a difficult time preventing violence."

Lynchings - 1927
Prevented

2496

Mississippi

Machine Guns Protect Prisoners

Gulfport, Miss., April 27.—(By the Associated Negro Press)—When the mob of infuriated whites seeking to lynch Willie Coleman and Steve McCann, who are accused of killing Andrew J. Becker at Bay St. Louis, learned that machine guns [illegible] by fifty members of the National Guard and a squad of heavily armed deputies were awaiting their arrival at the Gulfport jail the members' anger cooled, and they decided at least for the time being to allow [illegible] to take its course.

NEW YORK
TELEGRAPH

APR 23 1927

Jail Guarded to Halt Attempted Lynching

GULFPORT, Miss., April 22. (U. P.)—The sheriff and twenty-five National Guardsmen, entrenched behind sandbags and armed with machine guns, guarded the county jail here all night prepared to repeal a mob reported en route from Bay St. Louis.

The mob planned to lynch two negroes held in the jail on charges of murdering a garage keeper Sunday, it was understood.

TRIBUNE
NEW ORLEANS, LA.

APR 19 1927

SOUND WORK IN HANCOCK

SHERIFF BONTEMPS and County Attorney Gex cannot be too highly praised by their fellow-citizens of Bay St. Louis, and the people of Mississippi at large, for the cleancut and courageous measures they took on Sunday night to check agitation for the lynching of two negroes held in the Hancock county jail under suspicion of the murder of A. J. Becker.

The Sheriff's prompt and rigid stand for the orderly execution of the law, the moment he reached the troubled and insecure scene, the response his calls met from other good citizens, as well as the diplomatic handling of a dangerous situation by Mr. Gex, while the Sheriff was still absent in pursuit of other suspects, were alike admirable. The citizens who made the arrest seem also to have displayed unusually good judgment, discretion, and conservatism, in their handling of the business.

ALYNCHING is never anything but a blot in the annals of any community in which it occurs.

In this case it would have proved a crime beyond that which it would have mistakenly pretended to redress.

If these men proved later to be innocent—as one did a few days ago after his rescue from a mob—the killing of them would have left a weight on the consciences of those who did it from which these themselves in after years would have longed for relief.

Since the fact is, on the other hand, that the guilt of the prisoners—or at least one of them—is clearly and fairly established, then a just punishment under the quick and orderly procedure of the law is as certain as the rise and fall of the tides over there on the Coast. Hence there was no occasion for mobbery at either alternative.

The quick assurance by Judge White and the District Attorney the speediest possible trial that the law permits, and the precautions taken by the Judge and by Governor Murphree, are likewise to be commended.

THIS tragedy furnishes a terrible lesson against the abomination of pistol-toting. It should be studied and understood. Gun-toting is a useless and mischievous practice in any such community as Hancock. There was no earthly excuse for it in the case of these two negroes out for a ride on the public highway Sunday afternoon.

We dare say that not one man in a hundred that drive along these roads go armed. The two white men involved in the tragedy were not armed. The chances are all against peaceful passengers on the streets or roads, when attacked by desperadoes, whether the victims of the attack be armed or not. And the provocation to use arms without excuse or right is far more likely to bring those that carry them into trouble than the carrying of weapons is to protect them from trouble.

IT IS far better to accept the commonplace provocations and irritations of life, and to seek the remedies of law for real injuries, than to turn yourself into an arsenal in the dubious idea of supplying your own redress. We cannot impress this too strongly upon the leaders of the negroes themselves, everywhere.

Let all citizens everywhere go unarmed, under the protection of the law alone, except the police officials of the community and those that must at need go by design into known dangers of which they are forewarned. That is the surest way to substantial security all round.

Aside from a murder several months ago in a remote corner of Hancock county, we do not recall a single other killing there in the 15 years we have known the county. This doubly emphasizes the uselessness of pistol-toting. For the victims of that crime were fully armed for hunting. And not even an arsenal would have protected them, or anybody else, from the wanton bushwhackery by which they were stealthily done to death.

THE Hancock authorities, incidentally, are to be congratulated on their activity leading to the arrest of a negro who killed his own brother-in-law in Bay St. Louis Sautrday night. It is not at all unlikely that the report of this crime may have inspired the gunnery of the other man on Sunday afternoon.

We customarily give too little attention to the aggressions of violent negro characters against members of their own race. So long as their depredations are restricted in that way, we too often fail to take the rigorous pains to punish them that every crime ought to bring out. And when these evil elements find comparative immunity in their aggressions against their fellow-negroes, it is not a far step for them to extend their practice against their white neighbors as well.

So, while commending the Hancock authorities at all points for their prompt and effective address in the unprecedented outbreaks of violence on Saturday and Sunday, we advise everybody, not merely there but throughout our two states, in the mere name of civilization, to abate the useless and mischievous abomination of gun-toting, and to use their influence with all others to that end. And we would particularly emphasize this upon the negroes. For it affords them no real protection at all, but merely supplies added opportunities for getting into serious trouble.

ITEM
NEW ORLEANS, LA.

APR 18 1927

Precaution and Lynching

MISSISSIPPI is the latest state to call upon troops to protect a negro accused of murder so that he can be given fair and legal trial. The accused man is charged with killing a Vicksburg policeman. He was taken to Jackson for safe keeping. The authorities think it advisable to keep him under guard during the trial. Three squads of National Guardsmen patrol the courthouse and guard the jail.

That such elaborate precautions and protection should be deemed necessary is a reflection upon the city. But it frequently is the wiser course. Adopted in every case in which public sentiment was stirred to a dangerous point, it would decrease lynchings to the vanishing point. Few mobs will face determined local officers willing to shoot it out, much less troops.

BRONX HOME NEWS

APR 22 1927

Machine Guns Ready to Thwart Mob's Lynch Law

Gulfport, Miss.—The sheriff and 25 National Guardsmen, entrenched behind sandbags and armed with machine guns, guarded the county jail here all night prepared to repel a mob reported on its way from Bay St. Louis.

The mob planned to lynch two colored men held in the jail on charges of murdering a garage keeper Sunday, it was understood.

CALL TROOPS OUT TO STOP MOB IN MISS.

Governor Orders Militia To Vicksburg When Threats Are Made To Lynch Colored American

JACKSON, Miss., April 13.—The State militia was called out Tuesday by Governor Dennis Murphee to avoid the impending danger of the lynching of Richard Bridges, following hurling of ugly threats by gangs of rowdy whites at Vicksburg, where Bridges will be taken for a hearing on a murder charge. Bridges was arrested Monday in connection with the slaying of a policeman, Robert Forbish, at Vicksburg.

Asks For Aid

Sheriff Scott of Warren County asked the governor for troops, when it became evident that the forces at Vicksburg would be unable to cope with the unlawlessness that threatened to develop from the murder. Word was sent to the governor that feeling was running high and that threats had been made to seize Bridges when he is brought to Vicksburg for a grand jury hearing.

Orders Militia Out

Governor Murphee acted promptly ordering a company of the national militia out to guard the prisoner.

Bridges was arrested at Jackson Monday in connection with the slaying of Forbish at Vicksburg. Bridges however, denied any knowledge of the crime.

Mail & ORK Telegram

APR 22 1927

NATIONAL GUARD OUT TO PREVENT LYNCHING

Sheriff and Soldiers Stand All-Night Vigil to Protect Jail.

By the United Press.

GULFPORT, Miss., April 22.—The Sheriff and twenty-five national guardsmen, entrenched behind sandbags and armed with machine guns, guarded the county jail here all night prepared to repel a mob reported en route from Bay St. Louis to lynch two negroes, held on charges of murdering a garage keeper Sunday.

Frees Negro After Rescue From Mob

BOONEVILLE, Miss., Apr. 10.—A striking example of the protection which the southern white man of high standing and authority demands for the law abiding and self respecting Negro is shown in a case which attracted the attention of the entire state here last week.

A white man of this town by the name of N. R. Clayton sounded an alarm on the night of March 3,, calling officers to his home and declaring that his wife had been murdered as they slept. Suspicion at once was directed toward the woman's husband as the slayer, the belief prevailing that the killing was done that he might come into possession of the heavy insurance which she carried on her life.

Officials started an inquiry and Clayton employed a lawyer. In short order the lawyer produced three white men, J. O. Slade, L. A. Myers and Clarence Burge, who swore that they saw Jack McGee, a reputable and law abiding Negro, run from the Clayton home on the night of the killing.

A mob was quickly formed, the Negro was captured and rushed to the outskirts of the town where a lynching bee was to be staged. Before the mob could do the man any harm, however, a small group of determined white men, armed to the teeth, invaded their ranks, and at the points of pistols, demanded that McGee be turned over to them. He was then taken to a near[illegible]ing.

With[illegible]ing the following, [illegible]was circulated i[illegible] accused Negro ar[illegible]ecured to employ c[illegible] him.

Habeas corpus p[illegible]edings were instituted resulting in the full release of the Negro and further, an indictment was returned against each of the three white men on a charge of perjury because of the statement that they swore to, telling that they saw McGee run from the Clayton home.

PRESENCE OF TROOPS SCARES OFF LYNCHERS

Gulfport Jail Heavily Guarded Against Invasion.

GULFPORT, Miss., April 22.—Company M, 155th Infantry, the Gulfport machine gun unit of the Mississippi National Guard, probably will remain on jail guard duty here as long as the two negroes, William Coleman, alleged confessed slayer of Andrew J. Becker, wealthy St. Louis last Sunday, and Stanford ("Steve") McCann, his companion at the time of the killing, remain in the Harrison County jail.

Decision of county and district authorities to retain the military guard here followed reports this morning that numerous residents of the Bay St. Louis district had been in Gulfport late last night or early this morning, while the county jail was functioning as a fortress ready for attack by an invading mob bent on lynching the negroes.

Sheriff Joseph Bostemps of Bay St. Louis late last night reported rumors of the formation of a mob in the Bay city, and immediate mobilization of the machine gun company followed.

The jail until after daybreak this morning was guarded by 60 men of the machine gun organization and by 15 armed deputy sheriffs and special deputies.

Information that the guardsmen had been called to defend the jail apparently reached the Hancock County crowd and kept them from approaching the jail. Reports to military authorities this morning placed the number of invaders at "15 cars full," but civil authorities who combed the city and its outlying roads last night said that no such number of automobiles, if traveling in a caravan, could have eluded their observation.

Several men warned away from the vicinity of the jail by sentinels were thought to have been scouts from scattered automobiles.

Company M was dividing its time tonight between guard duty and annual inspection by regular army officers.

MILITIA WILL TAKE NEGRO TO VICKSBURG

Gov. Murphre Acts Promptly on Report.

VIOLENCE WAS RUMORED

Capt. Hollifield Is Sent In Airplane to Make Personal Investigation for the Governor—Sheriff Asks for Troops.

JACKSON, Miss., April 12.—Following a personal report by Capt. Hollifeld that ugly threats were still heard at Vicksburg over the murder of Policeman Robert Forbish by Richard Bridges, negro, Gov. Dennis Murphree tonight ordered a company of the national guard to accompany Bridgesh to Vicksburg tomorrow morning.

The negro has been in Jackson for safe keeping, but will return to Vicksburg tomorrow for grand jury action. It is probable that a speedy indictment will be returned and that the trial will begin at once.

Gov. Murphree acted with promptness and dispatch. The rumors from Vicksburg reached the governor's office this morning. He immediately sent Capt. Hollifield to Vicksburg in airplane. The captain reported a good deal of excitement and Sheriff Scott of Warren County asked for troops.

The company will leave Jackson tomorrow morning at 3 o'clock.

Speedy Trial Is Likely

VICKSBURG, Miss., April 12.—A very speedy trial for Richard "Bud" Bridges, colored, alleged slayer of Policeman Robert Forbish, is likely.

A conference between Judge E. L. Brien, Sheriff F. A. Scott and city officials was held this afternoon and the grand jury will be reconvened tomorrow.

Both Sheriff Scott and Police Chief Tucker expressed much satisfaction today that the hunt for Bridges had resulted successfully and no violent act had occurred, while the situation in this city and county was somewhat tense following the murder of a ppoular policeman.

The funeral of Policeman Forbish took place this morning at 9 o'clock, a very large number of persons turning out to pay their respects.

A $450 reward was offered for the capture of Bridges, $250 by the state and $100 each by the city and county. The money offered by the state and city will be available shortly, that offered by the county will have to be allowed by court order.

While Bridges made the statement following his apprehension after midnight that another negro shot Policeman Forbish, the negro bore a bullet wound in his neck, likely inflicted by Officer Forbish after the latter had been fatally shot.

Bridges declared that the negro, Percy Brown, had shot Forbish, but Brown was being placed in jail at the time of the shooting, so Bridges' statement seems a lie out of the whole cloth.

H. Wilson, a young man, told the police today he believes he is entitled to the full reward offered for Bridges' capture, stating he captured the negro single-handed.

600 TROOPS GUARD THIS TRIAL

JACKSON, MISS. — 600 National Guards in steel helmets, armed with machine guns, and tear gas bombs, kept order at the trial of Walter Burley, for assault upon two white women.

The women were killed too, but the court held the assault the more important case.

Newspaper women were excluded from the trial and the jury needed less than two minutes to reach a verdict.

Troops Hurry Two Negro Slayers to Secret Jail

Jackson, Miss., June 5.—(AP)—Two Negroes were arrested here today in connection with the slaying last Friday of Mrs. O. S. Rees and Miss Martha Rees, and removed by state militia men to an unknown desination for safe keeping.

Lynchings - 1927
Prevented

Mississippi.

2497

MOB REPORT IS HOAX BELIEVE OFFICERS

Draper Does Not Expect Attempt Will Be Made to Lynch Walter Burley

State prison authorities are not expecting any attempt on the part of Mississippians to wrest from Alabama officers by violence, the custody of Walter Burley, negro, charged with the murder of two white women near Jackson, Miss., and who is now confined temporarily at Kilby prison for safekeeping.

6-15-27

Hamp Draper, associate member of the state board of administration, who is in charge of the prison affairs of the state of Alabama, said Tuesday that he had investigated reports reaching Montgomery that scouts had been sent out from Mississippi in advance of a mob that had formed there with the intention of coming to Alabama for the purpose of taking Burley away from Alabama authorities.

Mr. Draper stated that as the result of this investigation, he does not anticipate any trouble whatever at Kilby regarding Burley. At the request of the governor of Mississippi, the negro is being held at Kilby prison, under orders issued by Governor Bibb Graves, until notice is received from the Mississippi chief executive concerning further disposition by officers of that state, of the prisoner.

The double crime with which Burley is charged, was committed some two weeks ago. After dodging several mobs in Mississippi, officers from that state brought the negro to Mobile where he was lodged overnight in the county jail. The following day reports were received in Mobile that a mob was on its way to "get" Burley. After a conversation between Governor Graves, and Sheriff Pat Byrne of Mobile, it was decided to move the prisoner to Kilby prison at Montgomery, and a Mobile National Guard unit was called into active service to escort officers who had the negro in charge, as far as Brewton.

While it is admitted that there may be "scouts" in Montgomery from Mississippi, the general opinion seems to be that these scouts, if here, would be sent only for the purpose of finding out if they could, when Burley is to be taken back to Mississippi for trial. It is not believed that any attempt at mob violence would be made in the state of Alabama by any person or persons who might be "after" the negro.

Officials are unable to see how any mob, however large, could hope to successfully storm the state penitentiary at Kilby. It was stated Tuesday by one in authority, that a ton of dynamite even if used without interference, could not blast a way through the walls to the place where prisoners under especial surveillance are kept.

The Alabama state prison is regarded as absolutely impregnable to mob attacks. In addition to the revolvers, rifles and sawed-off shotguns with which guards and deputy wardens are armed, the authorities at Kilby are equipped with an ample supply of tear-gas bombs, and a number of machine guns. The machine guns have been added to the equipment at the prison since the time which occurred among the prisoners there some months ago. At a few minutes' notice, it is stated, these guns can be set up and made ready for business by men who are thoroughly familiar with handling them to the best advantage.

Guards moved in from other prisons Monday evening, to augment the force at Kilby when the rumors of mob activity in Mississippi regarding Burley, first reached here, returned to their regular stations Tuesday morning.

Lynchings - 1927
Prevented.

Mississippi.

2498

Frees Negro After Rescue From Mob

BOONEVILLE, Miss., Apr. 10.—A striking example of the protection which the southern white man of high standing and authority demands for the law abiding and self respecting Negro is shown in a case which attracted the attention of the entire state here last week.

A white man of this town by the name of N. R. Clayton sounded an alarm on the night of March 3, calling officers to his home and declaring that his wife had been murdered as they slept. Suspicion at once was directed toward the woman's husband as her slayer, the belief prevailing that the killing was done that he might come into possession of the heavy insurance which she carried on her life.

Officials started an inquiry and Clayton employed a lawyer. In short order the lawyer produced three white men, J. O. Slade, L. A. Myers and Clarence Burge, who swore that they saw Jack McGee, a reputable and law abiding Negro, run from the Clayton home on the night of the killing.

A mob was quickly formed, the Negro was captured and rushed to the outskirts of the town where a lynching bee was to be staged. Before the mob could do the man any harm, however, a small group of determined white men, armed to the teeth, invaded their ranks, and at the points of pistols, demanded that McGee be turned over to them. He was then taken to a nearby jail for safe keeping.

Within three hours during the following day a petition was circulated in behalf of the accused Negro and $1,000 was secured to employ counsel to defend him.

Habeas corpus proceedings were instituted resulting in the full release of the Negro and further, an indictment was returned against each of the three white men on a charge of perjury because of the statement that they swore to, telling that they saw McGee run from the Clayton home.

JACKSON NEGRO CONVICTED IN STAR CHAMBER SESSION

Spectator ... Newspaper Mer Exc... From Trial Of ...ey For Slaying Two Women

...Y DELIBERATES ONLY ONE MINUTE, 30 SECONDS

Transferred To Unannounced Prison; Guards Aided By Barbed Wire

JACKSON, MISS., June 21.—(AP)—Walter Burley, negro, slayer of two women, tonight was being transferred to an unannounced destination to be held until July 27 when he will be hanged for criminally assaulting one of the women.

Burley, convicted in Hinds county circuit court here today after one minute and 30 seconds of deliberation by the jury, was brought to trial in a courtroom around which a cordon of national guardsmen had been thrown while machine guns frowned down upon the curious from nearby points of vantage.

Ten witnesses, including O. S. Rees, husband of one of the slain women and brother of Miss Martha Rees who was attacked and slain by the negro, testified in the trial from which not only the general public but newspapermen were barred.

Under the laws of Mississippi, Judge Potter said, they may be excluded from trial of certain cases. He declined to discuss his exclusion of newspapermen after the trial other than asserting that he took this action because he did not want to inflame the public. He considered the newspapers a part of the public, he said.

The witnesses told of finding the bodies of the two women on the morning of June 8. Dr. W. W. Smithson told of a post-mortem examination of Miss Rees' body which revealed that she had been assaulted. Other persons told of seeing Burley in the vicinity of the Rees home on the morning of the crime.

Burley, spirited into Jackson during last night by armed troops, entered a plea of guilty when arraigned, but this the county refused to accept and a jury was speedily empanneled.

Six hundred guardsmen patrolled the vicinity of the courtroom, around which a barbed wire entanglement had been thrown, on the alert to forestall any attempt at mob violence.

There were no disorders, although a temporary near panic resulted from fire crackers exploded in the vicinity of the courthouse by a boy. Hundreds of curious persons assembled in the neighborhood during the day, but none ventured beyond the limits prescribed by the guardsmen.

The troops were called out as a precautionary measure following the demonstrations after Burley's arrest when he was rushed to Kilby prison at Montgomery, Ala., to prevent mob violence. Later a statement was signed by citizens at a mass meeting in Jackson declaring there would be no attempt to lynch the negro until he had been brought to trial.

Last week, Mr. Rees, husband and brother of the two women, issued a statement calling upon his friends to refrain from any attempt at violence.

TROOPS THWART THE MISSISIPPI LYNCHING BEE

National Guardsmen Called Out By Governor Disperse Mobs

By Associated Negro Press.

Jackson, Miss., June 15.—With Walter Burley, the Negro, who after confessing the murder of two white women, Martha Rees and Mrs. O. S. Rees, narrowly escaped a lynching at the hands of an angry white mob, safe in prison in Montgomery, Alabama, Jackson has settled back to normalcy. There was little indication here Tuesday that a mob had taken possession of the city shortly before. The soldiers whom the Governor had promptly called out had dispersed and the streets were as full of colored faces as usual. Members of the mob are said to have declared themselves content until June 20, when Burley, a former convict, will be brought back for trial and they will again try to get him. Negroes express little sympathy for Burley, all of them seemingly thinking him guilty. Three other Negroes, friends of Burley, were released. The governor of Mississippi from the capital here issued the following statement:

"A number of my friends who have been to see me to tell me that I am bitterly criticised by various people because as Governor I ordered out state troops to protect the four Negroes who were in the hands of the officers here Sunday.

"The troops were ordered out at the signed request of the Acting Sheriff, the District Attorney, and the personal request of the Circuit Judge.

"When I took the oath of office as Governor, I swore that I would uphold the laws of Mississippi, and stand behind the officers of the law without fear or favor.

"As Governor of Mississippi it was my sworn duty to call these troops when the officers of the law called me for them.

"I regard my oath of office as sacred no matter what my personal or individual inclinations or desires in any matter might be, as Governor of this state my sincerest desire is to follow the path of duty. DINNIS MURPH

TROOPS QUIET JACKSON MOB

Attempted Lynching Is Stopped by Governor

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DENNIS MURPHREE.

Need 600 Troops When Mob Tries Lynch Negro

JACKSON, Miss., June 21.—Six hundred National Guardsmen surround the court house here to prevent a rabid mob from lynching Walter Burley, negro, alleged to have killed a white woman. The guardsmen on duty are wearing steel trench helmets.

A suspicious aspect of the trial is that all newspapermen have been barred by Judge W. W. Potter.

500 GUARD NEGRO FACING TRIAL FOR KILLING 2 WOMEN

Jackson, Miss., June 20.—(AP)—More than 500 National Guardsmen were on duty here today as a protection for Walter Burley, Negro slayer of two white women, whose case was slated to be the first presented to the grand jury meeting today.

In event of indictment the trial is expeced to be held some day this week, and J. D. Howie, district attorney, said it probably would take only two or three hours, as the man has confessed.

After the slaying of Mrs. O. S. Rees, 38, wife of a dairyman, and the slaying and attack on her sister-in-law, Miss Martha Rees, 18, in their

home near here, Burley was arrested and taken to Alabama for safe keeping. Court officials said no mob violence was feared at the trial, but that the troops were called out as a precaution.

BURLEY IN JACKSON GUARDED BY TROOPS

Negro, Removed From Kilby Prison, Will Go On Trial For Double Murder Today

JACKSON, MISS., June 19.—Special to The Advertiser.—Equipped with rifles, fixed bayonets, machine guns, ammunition and tear gas bombs, more than 500 Mississippi National Guardsmen were tonight guarding the county jail here, where Walter Burley, negro, is awaiting trial on charges of murdering Miss Martha Rees and Mrs. O. S. Rees. The two women were killed after the negro had assaulted Miss Rees at their surburban home several weeks ago.

The negro was taken to Kilby prison, Montgomery, Ala., after he had confessed the crime, having been returned here today under heavy guard. Feeling has been at a high pitch since his arrest and confession, and several attempts have been made to take him from officers, but in each case the mobs were outwitted.

The trial starts tomorrow morning and the troops will maintain their vigilance throughout. An attorney for the defendant will be appointed by the court, and it was understood tonight that Judge W. H. Potter had selected two Jackson law firms for the purpose.

The 115th machine gun company of Corinth and company M 155th infantry of Biloxi, Miss., augmented local guard units and were quarteded about a stone-throw from the Hinds county courthouse, where the trial will take place, at the city auditorium-armory.

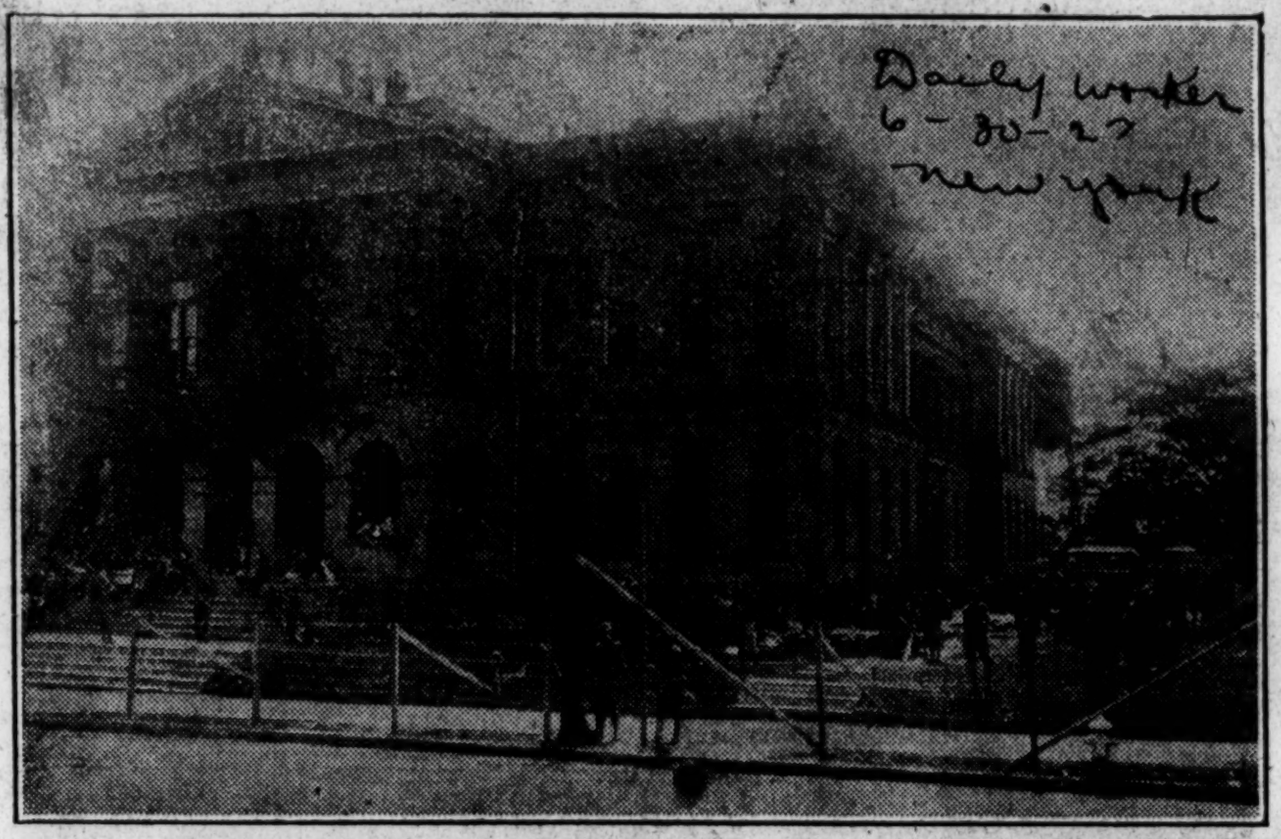
Miss Rees was a University of Mississippi co-ed, and her sister-in-law was the wife of a prominent dairy owner. They were slain in the early morning, and the slayer escaped in an automobile stolen from Mr. Rees, while the latter was out on a milk delivery route.

Escorted by eight officers of the state law enforcement bureau, Mississippi officers left Kilby prison at 8:40 Saturday night with Walter Burley, negro, who will be tried for the murder of Mrs. O. S. Rees and Miss Mary Rees in Jackson Monday. The guard was ordered by Governor Bibb Graves at the request of Sheriff W. O. Wells of Jackson.

A telegram received by Chief Law Enforcement Officer Walter K. McAdory Sunday stated that the party, who had gone by automobile by way of Birmingham and Jasper, had arrived at Columbus, Miss., at 5:45 Sunday morning. They were to have been met by a Mississippi National guard detachment at that place.

Accompanying Sheriff Wells were Deputy Sheriff Vaughn and Sam Latham, a law partner of the prosecuting attorney at Jackson.

TO INSURE A LEGAL LYNCHING



National guardsmen on the roof of the Jackson, Miss., courthouse and jail with machine guns, and detachment stationed behind barbed wire fence around the building. A mob was trying to hang John Burley, railroaded thru the courts and sentenced to death, without waiting for the regular legal formalities. When a Negro is charged with murder in the South he is always hanged, but lately the state administrations have been insisting on having it done by due process of law.

WOMAN'S CRIES HALT JAIL RAID

Three Unidentified Men Hold Up Mississippi Prison Keeper and Demand Negro Slayer.

Columbus, Miss., July 15.—(AP) Screams of the Lowndes county jail's housekeeper, Mrs. Sanders, early today frightened away three men who had held up the prison keeper, and demanded that he turn over to them Walter Burley, negro, confessed slayer of Mrs. O. S. Rees and her sister-in-law, in Jackson, Miss., in May, and who is under death sentence after his recent conviction.

The three unidentified men entered the jail under the pretext of delivering a prisoner, and Jailer Porter was ordered under point of guns to turn over the prisoner. Porter insisted he did not have the prisoner and had not had him since before his trial.

Hearing the commotion on the ground floor, Mrs. Sanders, sleeping upstairs, went down to investigate. The three men were holding Porter with a gag. Mrs. Sanders screamed and the intruders fled.

SCREAMS OF WOMAN PREVENT MISS. LYNCHING

COLUMBUS, Miss., July 27 —Only the screams of a woman attendant was all that saved Walter Burley from the hands of lynchers.

Burley who was recently convicted of murdering two white women is awaiting the day of his execution in the Lowndes county jail. It was necessary to call out a detachment of the state militia to guard him at his trial.

Friday while she was cleaning cells in the jail, Mrs. Sanders, white heard three masked white men order the jailer, Porter, white, to turn Burley over to them or they would blow his head off. They had gained admittance to the jail under the retense of delivering a prisoner.

The woman screamed when she realized the danger and the would-be-lynchers fled.

with my oath of office. Deputies on guard at the jail are heavily armed and have been ordered to shoot in order to protect prioners and uphold the majesty of the law." It was denied by county officials that Burley was in jail here. He is under sentence to be hanged July 22 at Jackson.

Woman's Screams Frighten Mob

COLUMBUS, Miss., July 28.—(By A. N. P.)—Screams of the Lowndes County Jail's housekeeper frightened away three men who had held up the prison keeper, and demanded that he turn over to them Walter Burley, confessed slayer of Mrs. O. S. Rees, and her sister-in-law, in Jackson, Miss., in May, and who is under death sentence after his recent conviction.

The three men, according to the jailer and his housekeeper, drove up in three cars. The number of men who waited in the cars outside, could not be determined. No clue had been established as to the identity of the jail raiders. "Should it re-occur, the officers on duty there have received orders to meet them with gunfire."

Sheric Z. P. Goodby declared that every prisoner in the jail was there by due process of law, "and I am going to protect them in accordance

Lynchings-1927
Prevented

Missouri

2514

STORM STOPS LYNCHING BEE

Tornado Destroys Jail. Negro Escapes While Wind And Lightning Kill Mob Members

Gala Lynching Festival Is Turned Into Frantic And Mourning

Special To the Argus

POPLAR BLUFF, Mo., May 11,—The tornado which occurred here Monday afternoon and in which a hundred lives were lost and millions of dollars worth of property were destroyed, prevented the lynching of a Negro here which had been planned for Monday night. A few days before, the body of a white woman had been found on the outskirts of the city. According to statements of citizens, she was an underworld character. A Negro was promptly arrested and held in connection with her death, but citizens say that he could not possibly have been guilty of the crime. Nevertheless, the lynching party had been formed and Monday night had been set for doing the bloody job. All Monday morning rumors of the intended lynching had been flying about town and the news had reached the country districts and large numbers of citizens of Poplar Bluff and Butler County were preparing to attend the gala occasion that night when they would hear blood curdling yells and witness the torture of the Negro victim who was then in jail.

Storm Breaks

At about 3:30 o'clock in the afternoon, the storm broke on the business section of the town. Many of the most prominent white citizens of Poplar Bluff were killed and their hotels, banks and stores were among the buildings wrecked as well as residences of the wealthier citizens. Scarcely any of the property of Negroes was affected by the storm.

Gala Turned Into Mourning

It was a horrible sight to witness. The hearts of those who were buoyed up with gala anticipations of a lynching, had been turned into fright and fear for their own lives. The house of joy had been turned to that of mourning. Instead of one body saturated with coal oil and gasoline as a prepartion for burning, the lightning did the ignition, and several bodies were burned in the ruins which followed in the wake of the storm.

Victim Escapes

Like Paul and Silas in jail at Phillippi, the intended victim sat in the jail at Poplar Bluff while the winds were howling and the thunder roared on the outside. Suddenly the mighty force of the tornado shook the jail and broke down its walls and the Negro who was to have been the victim of the brutal mob that night fled amid consternation and sorrow which the storm had created. Many inhabitants of the city looked upon the storm as a special agency of God who, in His wrath, destroyed the city which intended to blacken its soul and name by the lynching of an innocent man.

BARELY AVERT LYNCHING AT SPRINGFIELD, MISSOURI

SPRINGFIELD, Mo., May 27—Only the quick action of Sheriff Frank Jones, of Howell County prevented the lynching of an aged colored American, Charles Allison, 50-years old near this city Saturday.

The aged Allison strongly protested his innocence to a charge of attempting to attack two white girls. He was arrested on suspicion at White Plains. A large mob of white farmers had assembled and were searching for a victim, when the arrest occurred. They stormed the jail, but the sheriff had smuggled Allison off to this city.

STORM STOPS LYNCHING BEE.

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MAN SAVED FROM MOB.

Poplar Bluff Man Is Protected From Throng by Officers.

POPLAR BLUFF, Mo., Sept. 4.—The mob that formed at Bloomfield last night after Theodore Duncan had been taken there following the attack made by him on his estarnegd wife and three other members of her family, was dispersed when officers informed them it would do no good to try to cause trouble, it was learned here today.

Duncan will face charges of assault with intent to kill.

He is believed to have been intoxcated when he went to the home of his wife's mother, to get his four-year-old son, Charles.

Lynchings - 1927
Prevented

New Mexico.

2515

SHEEP HERDER RUNS AMUCK; KILLS MAN

New Mexico Officers Take Precautions to Safeguard Taos Prisoner

TAOS, N. M., Aug. 30.—(AP)—Precautionary measures were taken tonight to safeguard Jose Cruse, a sheep herder who ran amuck in the hills near here and shot and killed Russell P. Dewiss of Dallas, Texas, and wounded Henry Hoburg, companion of Dewiss.

After the shooting, Mrs. Dewiss, who with her husband was spending the summer in New Mexico, fled to the nearest town, Red River, and a posse pursued and captured the sheep herder. Cruse was a prisoner tonight in the jail here.

Moburg was pushed over a 100 ft. embankment by the slayer after the shooting and was found there by searchers. His condition is not serious.

Dewiss, a graduate of Harvard and Wabash college, was a professor of languages at the Terrill Boys school at Dallas. He is a native of Kokomo, Ind.

Lynchings - 1927
Prevented.

New York.

2516

Threaten to Lynch Man In N. Y. City

NEW YORK, June 2.—(By P. N. S.)—During a quarrel between Irving Lillian (white) and Edward Byrnes Thursday morning in a subway near Seventh Avenue and 28th street, Brynes is said to have stabbed Lillian in the back puncturing his left lung. A large crowd of whites gathered around Brynes and threats of lynch him were heard and it was the early arrival of a squad of police that averted the threatened trouble. The fight is said to have started on a crowded subway train.

N. Y. WORLD

MAY 27 1927

"LYNCH HIM!" N. Y. MOB YELLS AFTER STABBING

Harlem Negro Saved From Crowd After Fight on Subway Platform

Drawing his revolver and plunging into a crowd of angry men bent on lynching Edward Bynes, twenty-seven year-old Negro, upon the platform of the 28th Street station of the West Side I. R. T. subway, Patrolman Gosselin of the East 35th Street Station rescued Bynes and locked him up on a charge of stabbing Irving Lillian of No. 1061 Simpson Street, the Bronx, yesterday.

Bynes and Lillian engaged in an argument at the Times Square station, Lillian charging that the Negro had crowded him. Both got off the train at the 28th Street station and a fight ensued in which, it is alleged, Bynes stabbed Lillian in the right side. Bynes had been beaten down by an angry crowd when the patrolman heard the uproar and cries of "lynch him," and ran into the station.

Bynes, who lives at No. 227 West 126th Street, claimed to have acted in self-defense. He is held pending the outcome of Lillian's injuries. The latter is in a critical condition in the New York Hospital.

Lynchings - 1927
Prevented

North Carolina.

2513

OFFICERS OUTWIT MOB

Reidsville, N. C., Jan. 25.—(A.N.P.) Officers of the law and bands of citizens have been engaged in the little game of "hide and seek" here for two days following the report that Paul Settle, a Negro, had raped a 17-year-old white girl. The mobs were bent on lynching the accused man and stormed the jail in this vicinity only to find that the prisoner was not there. The officers are equally determined to protect the prisoner and have spirited him away

NORTH CAROLINA OFFICERS DEFIED MOBOCRATIC GANG

(By the Associated Negro Press.)

Durham, N. C.—A lynching and possible race trouble were narrowly averted here Thursday night when officers rescued Louis Jones, who had slashed the throat of a white man, from a mob of whites. When the officers arrived the twenty or thirty men had beaten Jones unconscious and were crying for "just five minutes" more.

The cutting and mob action occurred at a local carnival ground when it is reported that the white man stepped on the toes of Jones' lady companion and refused to apologize. Jones demanded an apology and a fight followed in which the white man was seriously cut. A crowd of whites gathered immediately and was beating Jones unmercifully when the officers intervened.

Realizing that serious trouble was brewing the police force was increased at the carnival ground and close watch was kept over the place. Although unrest prevailed no further trouble resulted.

first the power plant to cut off the lights. The night engineer, Leach, hid himself. No member of the mob knowing how to handle the switches, the mob, "after nosing around a while," passed on.

Second: The next objective was the home of the superintendent of the light plant, Hill. "They called him out. One of the leaders stuck a pistol under his nose and ordered him to the plant with them. Arriving at the plant they compelled him to throw the switches, thus throwing the town into darkness."

Third: Masked themselves and town in darkness, the mob members visited the home of Wiggs, township constable. Wiggs was absent but Mrs. Wiggs was awakened by the mob and questioned as to the whereabouts of her husband. Her reply that he was on a raid did not satisfy and the mob searched the premises.

Fourth: Still under cover the darkness the mob descended next upon the home of Fuller, deputy sheriff. "No effort was made to arouse the Fuller household, the marauders hanging around for a time and then departing. Naturally the families of both the officers were considerably frightened, particularly the Wiggs family, Mr. Wiggs being away."

By this time word had reached other officers and two policemen came to life and "started on a tour of investigation but the mob had driven off when the policemen arrived."

The negro, Bryant, was in the state prison where he had been carried when news of the first mob 24 hours earlier reached the officers. He was to have been brought back but Louisburg instructed Raleigh to hold him there. What the mob wanted at the home of either Wiggs, constable, or Fuller, deputy sheriff, is not clear. Both had been in the party which took Bryant to Raleigh.

Apparently none of the narrated circumstances is in dispute. They present a picture of lawlessness fairly inclusive in detail. What might have happened if the prisoner had been in Louisburg, or if power plant engineer, or superintendent, or family of constable, or of deputy sheriff, had resisted, you are left to imagine. No tragedy did occur, but for that the state, and particularly Franklin county, will have to grateful for various incidents of fortune.

Nothing in the narrative discounts the spirit of mobbism under which the foray was conducted; and nothing will excuse Franklin county for failure in the immediate and determined action which such a situation demands.

OFFICERS OUTWIT MOB

Associated Negro Press

REIDSVILLE, N. C., Jan. 26—Officers of the law and bands of citizens have been engaged in the little game of "hide and seek" here for two days, following the report that Paul Settle, a Negro, had raped a 17-year-old white girl. The mobs were bent on lynching the accused man and stormed jail and jail in this vicinity only to find that the prisoner was not there. The officers are equally determined to protect the prisoner and have spirited him away for safe-keeping.

COOL HEADED OFFICER PREVENTS LYNCHING

Raleigh, N. C., Aug. 31.—(By the Associated Negro Press)—Had it not been for the cool-headedness of Deputy Sheriff Clyde Whitaker, North Carolina would have had another lynching charge against it by this time. A posse in search of Albert Spencer, who had terrified a Negro settlement here, shot at officers and thereby gained the reputatitn of being a "bad man," captured the fugitive near here Wednesday and was bent upon taking him dead instead of alive when the officer stepped in front of them and protected his prisoner.

Spencer was running away from the posse when he was captured and many declaring him to be a "bad man" wanted to shoot him while in flight, but Whitaker held them in check while he overtook the fugitive, single-handed, and placed him under arrest. Spencer surrendered to the officer without any trouble and was much relieved when he was informed that he would be amply protected.

TROOPS FOLLOW N. C. MOB BENT ON LYNCHING

(Preston News Service).

Morganton, N. C., June 27.—During the wildest excitement chases, rumors and everything to fan the flames of race hatred two companies of N. C. National Guard are keeping pace with the furtive members of a would-be mob seeking the blood of a Negro, and a third regiment in readiness to pounce on the mobbers to suppress ther activity.

It is claimed that nearly 3,000 men and boys are searching swamps, woods, hills and valleys in an effort to find Broadus Miller, alleged to have assaulted a young white woman.

Thursday night the mob was a fever heat when a riot call bell was sounded and men rushed to the scene with the hope of seeing the lynching bee. But Miller had not been found, and the national guard were on hand. The men stealthily slunk into the woods and quietly disappeared.

Officials of the National Guard declare that North Carolina will not be disgraced with another outbreak of mob violence.

GREENSBORO
N. C.
ISSUE OF
SEP 10 1927

THE MOB IN FRANKLIN.

Concerning the second effort of the Franklin county mob which wanted Weldon Bryant, a negro charged with attacking a white woman, these circumstances are now reported.

First: Forty masked men, entering Louisburg an hour after midnight in search of their prey, visited

JUDGE, TROOPS COW LYNCHERS

GOLDSBORO, N. C., Dec. 11 (AP).—Halted temporarily by irate spectators who threatened a lynching and made necessary the firing of warning shots and calling out of National Guardsmen, the first Sunday court trial in North Carolina came to a dramatic end here today with the sentencing to death of Larry Newsome, twenty-three, a negro, for the murder of Buela Tedder, fifteen, daughter of a tenant farmer. The jury was out fifteen minutes.

The sentence came barely sixty hours after the body of the young girl was found in a cotton field near here with her throat cut. The presiding judge, Henry A. Grady, sat with a huge automatic pistol at his side, ready to suppress further disorder.

Trouble began about five minutes after court convened when Eric Tedder, father of the dead girl, and William Tedder, his brother, advanced on the negro, each taking an arm of the prisoner. They lifted him half way out of his chair as shouts of "Get him!" and "Take him!" come from a dozen throats in the crowd.

Officers quickly surrounded the prisoner and beat off his assailants. Sheriff W. D. Grant fired two shots into the ceiling as a warning.

William and Eric Tedder were seized, the first being forced to sit through the remainder of the trial handcuffed to two officers, while Eric sat unshackled but under guard.

Meantime Battery A. of the One Hundred and Thirteenth Field Artillery, National Guard, was called and, with sidearms, sat about Newsome during the remainder of the trial.

NEW YORK AMERICAN
DEC 12 1927

NEW YORK
EVE. WORLD

DEC 12 1927

LYNCHING BALKED BY ARMED COURT AT KILLER'S TRIAL

Young Negro Saved From Slain Girl's Kin—Gets Death Sentence

GOLDSBORO, N. C., Dec. 12 (A. P.)—Rescued by the guns of officers from the hands of a mob, Larry Newsome, young Negro, awaited in the Raleigh State Penitentiary to-day his electrocution on Jan. 13 for the murder of Buela Tedder, a farmer's fifteen-year-old daughter.

The attempt to mete out rough and ready justice to the Negro was stopped only by the barking of Sheriff W. D. Grant's gun after he had pulled Newsome from the hands of the dead girl's relatives, who pounced upon him yesterday as he sat in court. The trial the first on Sunday in North Carolina proceeded peacefully thereafter, with hurriedly called National Guardsmen of Battery A, 113th Field Artillery, sitting about the prisoner with a display of sidearms.

William Tedder, brother of the girl, who, with the father, Eric Tedder, led the attack on the Negro amid cries of "get him" and "take him," was subdued by the officers and handcuffed to two of them throughout the remainder of the trial. The father also was placed under guard. An automatic pistol which Henry Grady, the Presiding Judge, placed on his desk beside him also assured peace.

Many persons in the crowded court room surged forward to aid the Tedders, as, five minutes after court convened, they strode forward down the aisle and pulled the Negro from his chair. A near riot ensued before Sheriff Grant and his deputies rescued Newsome, who lost some of his clothing in the melee. The prisoner was thrust into an anteroom, before whose door Grant wheeled and fired two shots into the air as a warning to the crowd.

Fifteen minutes after the case went to the jury a verdict of guilty was returned. Newsome was hustled into an automobile and under troop escort was taken to Raleigh.

His trial ended sixty hours after the Tedder girl's body was found in a cotton field with her throat cut. The killing was traced to Newsome, who Deputy Sheriff J. C. Kornegy said later confessed.

NEW YORK WORLD
DEC 12 1927

WITH GUN AT SIDE, SENTENCES KILLER

North Carolina Judge Armed as Crowd Attempts Lynching of Condemned Negro

FIRST TRIAL ON SUNDAY

Father of Dead Girl Handcuffed to Prevent Vengeance

GOLDSBORO, N. C., Dec. 11 (A. P.)—Halted temporarily by irate spectators, who threatened a lynching and necessitated the firing of warning shots and the calling out of National Guardsmen, the first Sunday court trial in North Carolina came to a dramatic end here to-day with the sentencing to death of Larry Newsome, twenty-three-year-old Negro, for the murder of Buela Tedder, fifteen-year-old daughter of a tenant farmer.

The sentence, coming barely sixty hours after the body of the young girl was found in a cotton field near here with her throat cut, was pronounced only after a near panic in the court room and as the presiding Judge, Henry A. Grady, sat with a huge automatic pistol at his side ready to squelch any further disorder.

Father Seizes Prisoner

The trouble began about five minutes after Court convened when Eric Tedder, father of the dead girl, and William Tedder, his brother, advanced through the packed and stuffy little room toward the Negro, each taking an arm of the prisoner. They lifted the Negro half way out of his chair as shouts of "get him" and "take him" broke from a dozen throats in the crowd, and others surged toward the prisoner.

A general stampede followed, with many breaking for the exits, and court attaches and newspapermen taking cover under tables and behind the jury box. Tables, chairs and cuspidors were knocked topsy turvy and one man jumped through the glass pane of a door.

Officers quickly surrounded the prisoner and beat off his assailants. With his shirt nearly torn from his back, the Negro was taken to an adjacent room and a guard placed about him. Sheriff W. D. Grant placed his back to the door and fired two shots into the ceiling as a warning.

Jury Out 15 Minutes

William and Eric Tedder were seized, the former being forced to sit through the remainder of the trial handcuffed to two officers, while the latter sat unshackled but under guard.

Meantime Battery A of the 113th Field Artillery, National Guard, was called and, with side arms, sat about Newsome during the rest of the trial.

After hearing the evidence for three hours, the jury retired and brought in its verdict in fifteen minutes. Newsome was rushed by automobile under troop escort to Raleigh, where he will die in the electric chair Jan. 13.

NEAR PANIC STAGED AS TRIAL OF NEGRO HELD ON SUNDAY

Uncle Of Slain Girl Murderer As Hearing Proceeds; Shots Quell Riotous Spectators

JUDGE KEEPS AUTOMATIC IN REACH DURING TUMULT

Jury Verdict Of Guilty Reached In Few Minutes; Execution Fixed January 13

GOLDSBORO, N. C., Dec. 11.—(AP)—A near riot marked what is believed to have been the first Sunday court session ever held in North Carolina, during the trial of Larry Newsome, negro, charged with slaying Beula Tedder, 15, in a cotton field near her home Thursday. National Guardsmen were called to maintain order. The negro was found guilty and sentenced to death.

Within five minutes after court convened this morning to complete the trial begun yesterday, an effort was made to take the negro from officers, and a near panic resulted in the packed courtroom when officers fired shots into the ceiling to quell the mob.

Eric Tedder, father of the slain girl, and William Tedder, his brother, entered the crowded courtroom almost unnoticed and had reached the negro before the crowd was aware what was happening. Each took the negro by an arm and had him half way out of the chair when some of the spectators began to shout "get him," "take him."

Then officers fired into the ceiling and the more timid of the spectators broke for cover, while officers surrounded the negro and rushed him into an adjoining room where he was held under guard until order was restored.

When order was restored in the courtroom, National Guardsmen escorted the prisoner back to the courtroom and armed with side arms surrounded the negro and his counsel while the trial proceeded.

Judge Keeps Automatic Handy

Judge Henry A. Grady, presiding jurist, called for order with an automatic pistol which he kept close by during the remainder of the trial. Once order was restored, however, there was no more disturbance.

After hearing evidence for three hours the jury was charged and retired, returning a verdict of guilty of murder within fifteen minutes. The negro was then sentenced to die Friday, Jan. 13, in the electric chair at the state prison at Raleigh. The conviction followed within 60 hours after the crime was committed.

The negro was then taken from the courtroom under National Guard escort and returned to the prison where he had been kept until yesterday to prevent violence.

Eric and William Tedder were placed under arrest after the panic had subsided and throughout the trial sat under guard, the latter being shackled to two officers.

Shots Start Exodus

When the shots began ringing through the courtroom as the two relatives of the girl sought to take the negro, there was a general scramble for the exits, one man jumping through a window, while court attaches and newspapermen dived beneath tables and chairs.

The negro was roughly handled during the melee, his shirt being ripped to shreds as officers surrounded him and beat off the members of the mob that sought to take him.

It was Sheriff W. D. Grant, of Wayne County, who broke the spirit of the mob and precipitated the general exodus from the courtroom, when he fired two shots into the ceiling, then he and his deputies held the mob back until National Guardsmen from Battery A, 113th Field Artillery, arrived.

NEAR RIOT MARKS TRIAL IN CAROLINA

Goldsboro, N. C., December 11.—(AP) A near riot marked what is believed to have been the only Sunday court session ever held in North Carolina, during the trial of Larry Newsome, negro, charged with slaying Buela Tedder, 15, in a cotton field near her home Thursday. The negro was convicted and sentenced to be electrocuted.

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Father Reaches Prisoner.

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Judge Is Armed.

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The Mob In The Face of Resistance

The fact that determined resistance on the part of two or three courageous officers is generally sufficient to rout an incipient mob was amply demonstrated in the courtroom at Goldsboro, N. C., Sunday morning when a couple of shots from the sheriff's pistol served to stampede a group of maddened citizens who were rapidly forming themselves into a lynching party while an accused was on trial on a charge of criminal assault and murder, two relatives of his alleged victim seized him, and being rapidly augmented by other sympathizers in the courtroom, had formed the nucleus of a mob bent on meting out summary punishment. The sheriff jumped into the affray, rescued the prisoner and by firing a couple of shots from his pistol sent the mob scurrying for points of safety, one man even taking exit through a window pane. The trial proceeded with armed national guardsmen stationed about the courtroom, while the judge presided over the court with a menacing looking automatic pistol resting upon his desk. And, of course, there was no further disorder. Around courthouses, in the bushes or upon darkened street corners, practically every mob is formed out of the heat of passion with not a semblance of reasoning or courage in evidence. Fearless officers, possessed of the ability to sense the circumstances of the situation can dispel a mob ten times their number. This fact has been demonstrated in North Carolina on more than one occasion.

Lynchings-1927
Prevented

Pennsylvania.

2512

N. Y. EVE. POST

DEC 21 1928

An excellent illustration of what happens when public sentiment in a community is genuinely opposed to lynching is supplied by the action of citizens of Media, Pa., in turning the town into an armed camp to resist any attempts to take a prisoner from the jail there. The prisoner is the self-confessed slayer of a girl, and the murder has aroused the countryside. A part of the credit for the admirable stand of the community against lynch law goes to the prompt action of Governor Pinchot and the sheriff of Delaware County, but what is most interesting about the situation is the determination of the community itself that its reputation is not to be blackened by a lynching. It is a display of spirit that should be followed by other communities. Lynchings do not occur ordinarily unless public sentiment favors them. A few officers of the law properly armed can hold off a mob, as has been proved many times, but they are little likely to make the attempt when they know that any resistance to the lynchers will bring down the condemnation of the voters who put them in office. The year has witnessed some unusually shocking instances of lynching; it is gratifying to have it close with an exhibition of determined respect for law.

PUBLIC LEDGER
PHILADELPHIA, PA.

DEC 18 1928

WI[illegible]ER THE TECHNICALITIES moved against the transfer of the three Negro prisoners from the jail at Media to the Eastern Penitentiary, it was undoubtedly the part of wisdom to sweep them aside. The fear of another lynching in Pennsylvania was quite enough to warrant quick and determined action by the State and Delaware County authorities. Only one such stain rests upon the history of Pennsylvania. Several years ago a Negro was taken from jail and burned by a mob at Coatesville—an incident inadvertently attributed to Downingtown in an editorial in yesterday's PUBLIC LEDGER. Lynching is a crime which no community can afford to countenance, and all intelligent persons will be relieved that the situation in Media was competently handled.

WHITE WOMEN STONE NEGRO

Bitter Feeling In Pa. Mining Section Ends In Gun Play

Miners' Wives and Daughters Attack Negro Miner; Stone, Club Him.

WAS SECOND ATTACK

Colored Man Fires in Air to Frighten Assailants; Kills Boy.

Washington, Pa., July 28.—(ANP)—As a result of the bitter feeling existing among the wives and daughters of the striking coal miners of this section toward the Negro miners who have come into the mines a young white boy is dead and a Negro miner is in jail, charged with murder.

The trouble started several days ago, but Monday afternoon, when Ellis Buns, 26, was returning home from work he was attacked by a number of union mine sympathizers. Burns, earlier had been attacked by three white women, one of whom threw pepper in his face and eyes, while the other two struck him with rocks and clubs. Prior to this Burns was stoned and clubbed by another crowd of white women. Burns made information against the women and a number of them were taken into custody for a hearing.

Asks Officers' Protection

When the women attacked Burns late Monday afternoon he is said to have drawn his revolver and fired into the air, the descending bullet striking Tony Sick, 14 years old, killing him almost instantly. Burns said that he fired the gun to frighten the women away. He said that when he fired the women ran, and that he heard screams of murder and yells of "lynch him" and he fled from the mob. Burns later went to a state policeman and gave himself up, asking the officer to escort him to jail for safe-keeping.

MOBS IN CLASH WITH POLICE

YORK, Pa., July 29.—Open hostilities between a mob of 75 farmers and a detachment of 40 state police broke out at Stewartstown, near here, today when attaches of the state department of animal husbandry began their work of inspecting the farmers' herds for tuberculosis, according to word received here.

The state troopers dispersed the irate farmers without any bloodshed, and the veterinarians went ahead with their work under heavy guard.

The hostilities began when the farmers, armed with clubs, stones and pitchforks, gathered at a farm near Stewartstown to resist the inspection. The trouble started several days ago when the farmers first resisted inspection of their herds, and several were arrested.

WHITE WOMEN ASSUALT NEGRO WHO KILLS BOY

(Preston News Service.)

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Lynchings-1927 Prevented

South Carolina

2511

S. Carolina Guardsmen Prevent Mobs' Regime

Columbia, S. C., July 1.—In an effort to suppress any disorder at two points in opposite ends of the state, Governor [illegible] Tuesday ordered out three companies of the South Carolina National Guard. A grand jury in Beaufort, in the southeastern corner of the state, returned indictments against seven men from Savannah, under the protection of two companies of guardsmen. The men were indicted for the murder of a white policeman. In Hickory Grove, near the northern border, over 200 miles away, a search was being made for a man who was alleged to have attacked a white woman. A company of troops were ordered to arms to prevent violence.

TROOPS MOBILIZED TO STOP DISORDER IN SOUTH CAROLINA

Two Companies Armed With Rifles and Machine Guns on Guard as Negro Slayers Are Arraigned

COLUMBIA, S. C., June 27.—(AP)—Three companies of South Carolina National Guard were mobilized by order of Governor Richards today to suppress any disorder at two points in opposite ends of the state.

While a grand jury in Beaufort, in the southeastern corner of the state, returned indictments against seven Savannah negroes for the murder three weeks ago of E. G. Langford, rural policeman, two companies of state troops armed with rifles, two machine guns, gas bombs and side arms guarded the court house.

In Hickory Grove, near the North Carolina border, over 200 miles away, a search by more than 1,000 citizens for a negro who was alleged to have attacked a young white woman, prompted Governor Richards to order out the Rock Hill company of the 118th Infantry.

No trouble was reported at either point, though the citizens of York county, in which Hickory Grove is located, were reported stirred to high feeling. Two days ago an aged white woman was murdered in that locality and a young negro is held in the penitentiary here, charged with the crime.

The seven prisoners in the Beaufort case held at the penitentiary were taken to Beaufort early today under guard of militia men. Though the public in Beaufort appeared indifferent to the case today, Governor Richards declared that the troops would [illegible] till the trial.

NEW YORK
EVE. WORLD
JUN 28 1927

TROOPS MOBILIZED TO GUARD NEGROES HELD AS SLAYERS

South Carolina Governor Takes Action to Suppress Disorder in Two Places

COLUMBIA, S. C., June 28 (A. P.)—Three National Guard companies were mobilized yesterday by order of Gov. Richards to suppress any disorder at two points in oppisite ends of the State.

While a Grand Jury in Beaufort returned indictments against seven Savannah Negroes for the murder three weeks ago of E. G. Langford, rural policeman, two companies of State troops, armed with rifles, two machine guns, gas bombs and sidearms guarded the Court House.

In Hickory Grove, near the North Carolina border, more than 200 miles away, a search by more than a thousand citizens for a Negro who was alleged to have attacked a young white woman, prompted Gov. Richards to order out the Rock Hill company of the 118th Infantry.

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The seven prisoners in the Beaufort case, held in the Penitentiary, were taken to Beaufort yesterday under guard. Gov. Ritchie says the troops will remain until the trial.

N. Y. WORLD
JUN 28 1927

SO. CAROLINA TROOPS GUARD NEGRO SUSPECTS

Governor Orders Force Out to Prevent Disorder as a Result of Killings

COLUMBIA, S. C., June 17 (A. P.)—Three National Guard companies were mobilized to-day by order of Gov. Richards to suppress any disorder at two points in opposite ends of the State.

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N. Y.
HERALD TRIBUNE
JUN 28 1927

S. C. Troops Guard Negroes

Called to Prevent Disorder at Two Points

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NEW YORK EVE. POST
JUN 28 1927

CAROLINA GUARD ON DUTY

Riots Feared in Two Sections Ove Negroes Accused of Murder

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TROOPS ORDERED OUT

Will Protect Seven Negroes to be Arraigned for Murder Today

COLUMBIA, S. C., June 26.—(AP)—Two companies of South Carolina national guard tonight [illegible] by order of Gov. John G. Richards to preserve order in Beaufort tomorrow for the arraignment of seven negroes for the murder three weeks ago of F. F. Langford, rural policeman.

TROOPS PREVENT LYNCHING IN SOUTH CAROLINA

Union, S. C., Aug. 9.—(By A. N. P.) Governor Richards' policy of the State militia to safeguard the lives of prisoners and to keep down mob-violence, again prevented a lynching, when a mob of five hundred or more white men threatened to storm the local jail Saturday night and lynch Albert Simpson, a colored youth, charged with shooting a white man. The appearance of the soldiers, armed with rifles and machine guns calmed the mob which dispersed immediately.

Simpson narrowly escaped being lynched in the early part of the afternoon. At this time, officers rescued him from the mob which was bent on killing him. According to reports, Simpson and a white youth by the name of Mack Austin had had trouble

TROOPS PREVENT LYNCHING IN SOUTH CAROLINA

Governor Richards Hurriedly Dispatched Soldiers To Guard Prisoner

By Associated Negro Press

Union, S. C., Aug. 10.—Governor Richard's policy of the State militia to safeguard the lives of prisoners and to keep down mob violence again prevented a lynching, when a mob of five hundred or more white men threatened to storm the local jail Saturday night and lynch Albert Simpson, a colored youth, charged with shooting a white man. The appearance of the soldiers, armed with rifles and machine guns calmed the mob which dispersed immediately.

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Crowd Gathers

A crowd of irate whites gathered around Simpson and was making preparations to lynch him, when policemen rushed in and rescued him. He was carried to the local jail. The mob, however, did not like to be deprived of their fun so easily and within an hour or so, the forces had been strengthened and they prepared to move on the jail. Their minds were changed when they saw the soldiers on guard, and when they recalled Governor Richards' famous order "To Shoot To Kill."

The white youth sustained a slight flesh wound and a charge of assault with intent to kill, has been placed against Simpson.

The dispatch with which the troops reached the jail and quelled the trouble, has elicited much commendation from citizens, who want to see South Carolina's slate kept clear and the law upheld. Forty-five minutes after Captain Thomas E. Jolly commander of Company E of the 118th Infantry, received the order he had his men at the jail and ready for action. The action, however was not necessary

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N. Y. WORLD
AUG 2 1927

LYNCHING WAITS IF "CHAIR" FAILS

Negro Assailant of Woman Menaced Anew If Plea of Insanity Prevails

RACE FEELING RUNS HIGH

Threats Are Made to Take Prisoner From Penitentiary

Special Despatch to The World

COLUMBIA, S. C., Aug. 1.—Race feeling is running high in York County in the northern part of this State. Threats are being made that if a plea of insanity made in behalf of William McKinley Thomasson, Negro, eighteen, is allowed by the courts and he escapes the electric chair to which he has been sentenced, citizens of the county will take him from the State Penitentiary and lynch him.

Early in the afternoon of June 25 Mrs. Frances Thomasson, seventy-eight, a white woman, whose family name had been taken by Negroes living nearby, was found on her husband's farm in the "Filbert community" of York County, with her throat cut. A man hunt was organized. Some one reported the Negro Thomasson had been seen on the farm. After an all night search he was found. He was saved from the crowd by police and brought to the State Penitentiary here to prevent lynching.

Old-timers recalled that Thomasson's grandfather was lynched forty years before, accused of killing a white boy.

Thomasson was tried July 11, defended by lawyers appointed by the court, and he pleaded not guilty. Police who had saved him from the mob, however, testified he had confessed he had attacked Mrs. Thomasson and then killed her to cover traces of his original crime. The jury found him guilty and he was sentenced to be electrocuted Aug. 12.

After the sentence Thomasson's lawyers said they had told the court they wished to have him examined by Dr. Fred C. Williams, head of the State Insane Hospital at Columbia. The court refused to delay the trial until Dr. Williams could be subpoenaed to testify to Thomasson's sanity, and gave his lawyers an order permitting Dr. Williams to examine him before Aug. 1. It is not known whether Dr. Williams has made the examination.

Friends of the murdered woman's family now say funds have been supplied from a mysterious source, by a group of "Negro-lovers," to permit the insanity plea. Thomasson's lawyers deny they have received any money from any one. Meantime threats are being made freely in Filbert that unless Thomasson is executed Aug. 12, he will be taken from the Penitentiary and lynched.

Lynchings- 1927
Prevented

Tennessee

2506

Mob Seeks to Kill Slayer, Governor Asks to Save Him

Chicago Bee
2-5-27
Chicago, Ill.

Nashville, Tenn., February 2.—Because he believes "Tennessee suffers in the eyes of the world from a lynching," Governor Austin Peay urged citizens of Lake county not to lynch Henry Walker, who on Monday shot to death his white landlord, W. Z. Leech, Ridgeley, Tenn., over the collection of a debt.

When it became known that rewards would be paid for the slayer whether returned dead or alive, posses and mobs began to scour the section about the scene of the crime. Gov. Peay attempted to reach Sheriff Damon Hedson of Lake county immediately. Unable to do so, he sent a formal request by telegraph to J. T. Burnett, of Tiptonville, asking that the citizens let the law take its course.

The governor declares he is assured that a term of court will be called immediately to try the slayer for the crime. He is urging citizens to broadcast this information

Gaffney, S.C.
Times
APR 18 1927

THE DANGER OF MOB LAW.

After an appreciable decline in the number of lynchings during the last several years, statistics made public recently indicate an upward trend again.

Incidents connected with the kidnaping of the little daughter of a Chattanooga official last month show how easy it is for a community to be worked up to such a state of frenzy that an innocent person may be put to death for a crime committed by another.

Following the paying of ransom money by the father, a white man and woman were arrested. Both protested their innocence, but feeling against the man was so strong that he was removed to Nashville for safekeeping.

The kidnapers adopted a most ingenious method of receiving the ransom money and avoiding apprehension. But in a most every crime, no matter how shrewd the criminal some point of safety is overlooked.

In this instance the number on the bills handed over by the anxious father proved the undoing of those who stole the child and held her for ransom.

A negro youth tendered one of the bills to a suburban druggist. The clew was followed, and the negro and a younger brother were arrested. Both confessed and practically all of the ransom money was recovered.

The white man and woman, of course, were released. And yet if the man had not been spirited away from Chattanooga immediately following his arrest, he might have been lynched. The blood of an innocent man would have been on the hands of the mob members, and maybe the real criminals would have escaped detection and punishment.

Mob law is always dangerous. It jeopardizes the lives of those who are guiltless and creates a disrespect of law on the part of the community.—Memphis Commercial Appeal.

Memphis Officers Prevent Lynching

12-1-27
Commercial Appeal
Memphis

Memphis, Tenn., Nov. 30—(A N[illegible]).—The sudden appearance of twenty officers saved Louis Bell and Sidney Springfield from being lynched here Monday morning, when they were arrested charged with highway robbery and criminally assaulting a white woman.

The robbery and assault are alleged to have happened early Monday morning when a car in which three young men and two girls were riding was commandeered by three Negroes and carried to a lonely place on the road. One of the young white women claims that she was assaulted twice. After reporting the matter to the police, the party disappeared.

Bell and Springfield were arrested five hours later and while in the custody of the officers, a mob of fifty white men appeared on the scene for the supposed purpose of lynching them. Reinforcements arrived just in time to avert mob violence. And while the feeling runs high, many point to the fact that it is rather peculiar that hree white men offered so little resistance against an equal number of Negroes, especially when the safety of the women was in danger.

NO LYNCHINGS IN STATE

Inter-Racial League Secretary Com[illegible]
pliments Tennessee's Record.

Commercial Appeal
7-22-27
Memphis

NASHVILLE, Tenn., July 21.—(AP)—"There has been no blot o[illegible] Tennessee's record this year and i[illegible] our purpose to so affect publi[illegible] opinion that we will rid the soutl[illegible] of the practice of lynching," J. E[illegible] Burton, general district secretary o[illegible] the Inter-Racial League, declared a[illegible] the eighth annual session here to[illegible] lay.

Burton, whose district include[illegible] Tennessee, Alabama a[illegible] Missouri, gave a review of inter-racial worl[illegible] in the south during the past 2[illegible] years. Tennessee has now 60 organized counties, he said, and $300,000[illegible] was spent last year on negro schoo[illegible] buildings.

Other work by the league in Tennessee was recounted by R. E. Clay, state secretary.

Promotion of [illegible] education and confidence as the surest ways to bring about inter-racial co-operation was stressed by Commissioner of Institutions Lewis S. Pope. Commissioner of Education P. L. Harned and Appellate Justice John H. Dewitt.

Negroes are provided for by Tennessee institutions just as are white people, with one exception, Commissioner Pope pointed out. That exception, the lack of a negro home for feeble minded, he promised to lend his best influence to remove.

Other prominent speakers [illegible] A. Keffer, director of the department of the University of Tennessee; Sterling Fort, Clarksville banker; Dr. R. T. [illegible] and Bishop I. B. Scott.

Officers Work Fast To Avert Lynching

MEMPHIS, Tenn., Dec. 1.—The sudden appearance of twenty officers saved Louis Bell and Sidney Springfield from being lynched here Monday morning, when they were arrested charged with highway robbery and criminally assaulting a white woman.

Commercial Appeal

The robbery and assault are alleged to have happened early Monday morning when a car in which three young men and two girls were riding was commandeered by three Negroes and carried to a lonely place on the road. One of the young white women claims that she was assaulted twice. After reporting the matter to the police the party disappeared.

12-3-27
Pittsburgh Pa.

Bell and Springfield were arrested five hours after and while in the custody of two deputies, a mob of about fifty white men appeared on the scene for the supposed purpose of lynching them. Reinforcements arrived just in time to avert mob-violence.

The two men arrested have maintained their innocence and while the feeling runs high, many point to the fact that it is rather peculiar that the three white men offered so little resistance against an equal number of Negroes, especially when the safety of the women was in danger.

Lynching Narrowly Averted in N. C.

Mob Attempts to Take Prisoner in Court Room

12-27
Commercial Appeal

GOLDSBORO, N. C., Dec. 12.—A Carolina lynching was narrowly averted Sunday during the highly melodramatic trial of Larry Newsome at Goldsboro, N. C., where he was charged and convicted of the murder of Buela Tedder, white, 15-year-old daughter of a tenant farmer, according to an Associated Press dispatch from that city.

Five minutes after court convened Eric Tedder, father of the girl, and William Tedder, his brother, seized Newsome as the angry mob cried, "Get him!—Take him!" A general stampede followed and the crowd rioted, one man jumping through a glass door, it is said. The police rushed to Newsome's rescue and beat off his assailants. The prisoner's shirt was nearly torn from his back.

Newsome was taken to an adjoining room and a guard placed around him. Sheriff W. D. Grant placed his back against the door and fired two shots into the ceiling as a warning. Presiding Judge Henry A. Gary sat with a huge automatic pistol at his side ready to prevent any further disorder. The dead girl's father was handcupped to officers and his brother was placed under guard. Battery A of the 113th Field Artillery was called, and sat with side arms during the trial.

The hearing of the evidence consumed three hours. The jury retired and brought in its verdict of guilty in 15 minutes, and Newsome was sentenced to die in the electric chair Jan. 13. The prisoner was placed in a motorcar and rushed to Raleigh under troop escort.

Lynchings-1927
Prevented

Texas.

2507

NEGROES GUARDED IN DALLAS, TEX. FOLLOWING THREATS OF VIOLENCE

Whites' Aim At Dynamiting Race Family Out Of District Is Frustrated

DALLAS, Tex., Aug. 3.—(Special)—A police patrol was maintained all Friday night in the 2600 block of Thomas avenue because of threats made against colored residents in the neighborhood. The officers were armed with riot guns and ready for the emergency, but nothing disturbed the locality.

The guard was posted because circulars were scattered Friday threatening a Race family which recently moved into a house in the block. The block is the dividing line between colored and white sections. The section is close to another in which several attempts have been made to blow up and burn houses of colored citizens.

LYNCHING IS BARELY AVERTED IN TEX. TOWN

CAMERON, Texas, Sept. 7 (Special)—Threats were made to lynch Noah Moore, 19 years old, here Tuesday by an angry mob of whites who milled about the jail where he was confined in connection with an attack upon a white man. Sheriff Law. Extra guards had to be placed round the jail, and the youth was arried away to an unknown destination under the cover of night.

ACCUSED SLAYER MOVED FROM MOB

Supposed Robber Of Texas Bank Removed After Threats Of Violence From Crowds

CISCO, TEX., Dec. 23.—(AP)—Rumors of mob violence following the death tonight of Chief of Police G. E. Bedford, wounded while pursuing robbers who held up the First National Bank here today, caused the removal from the city of Louis E. Davis, accused robber, who also was wounded.

A thousand men meanwhile searched the countryside for four robbers who escaped after using two little girls as a screen against bullets in making their escape.

A large crowd gathered about the hospital in which Davis was under guard and to forestall possible violence he was removed to Eastland in an ambulance.

In answer to questions of officers after a physician had told him he would probably die, Davis said that he lived in Wichita Falls, where he had three children.

Half a dozen persons in addition to Chief Bedford and Davis were wounded during the holdup, which was staged by a robber wearing a Santa Claus costume and four companions. Marion Olson, Harvard University student home for the holidays, was shot during the gun battle.

Laverne Comer, 12, and Emma May Robinson, 10, were the children forced into the car and later abandoned in it with orders to lie down so they would not see which way the robbers went.

All of the money taken from the bank was recovered, Cashier Alex Spears, who received a bullet in the jaw, reported tonight. Its recovery was due to the fact, that the Comer child, ordered to hand out the money, passed over a sack, but not the one containing $12,200 in currency and $150,000 in non-negotiable paper.

Chief Bedford was shot while exchange fire with the robbers. George Carmichael, a police officer was shot in the head as he ran to answer the alarm. R. L. Day, cafe employe, walked up to the rear of one of the robbers' cars and attempted to fire into it but the pistol snapped and he received a scalp wound in return.

Brady Boggs was shot and fell, breaking a leg as he rushed toward the scene. Pete Rutherford was shot in the thigh by a stray bullet. Oscar Cliett, a customer, was shot while in the bank.

Lynchings- 1927
Prevented

Virginia.

2589

Sheriff Flees With Prisoner

DANVILLE, Va.—Because of hostile feeling toward Paul Seale, charged with attacking a 7-year-old white girl, Seale was removed by officers, to an unknown destination late Friday.

VIRGINIA MOB THREATENS NEGRO PRISONER

Alexandria, Va., March 19—(ANP) Fearing mob violence, officers spirited Louis Boorsig, a 44 year old Negro, out of Alexandria and taken to the Fairfax Courthhouse jail Saturday for safe keeping. Boorsig is accused of attacking Mrs. George Ridgeway and her three children at her home near here Friday.

Following the arrest of the man, who is believed to be insane, open threats of lynching the prisoner and the h[illegible] increased when it was reported that one of the children had died.

The crime with which Boorsig is charged bears the stamp of a deed committeed by an insane person.

MOB TRIES TO SEIZE MAN FROM VA. OFFICERS

DANVILLE, Va, Aug. 17.—Charged with a capital crime against a girl, John Duncan, 52, was spirited away for safekeeping afternoon on instructions from Chief of Police Ball. A patrolman, who had heard neighborhood gossip, said he hid at a point near Duncan's home and watched the place. He charges Duncan lured the girl into his home.

More than 30 whites aware of the officer's purpose gathered, and when they saw Harris arrest Duncan, they attempted to seize him from the officer. Duncan was bleeding freely from a scalp wound Harris said he inflicted with his club at the moment of arrest.

Mob Threatens Alleged Attacker of Young Girl

Danville, Va., Aug. 19.—John Duncan, 53, charged with a criminal assault against a minor girl, was spirited away for safekeeping last Saturday after a mob of white men attempted to seize Duncan from a policeman. Duncan was arrested by a policeman who had heard neighborhood gossip. The officer said that he hid near Duncan's home and watched the place. He charged Duncan lured the girl into his home. The prisoner was carried away for safety and was bleeding freely from a scalp wound which had been inflicted by the policeman with his club.

Mob Fails To Get Va. Man Accused By Girl

DANVILLE, Va.—John Duncan, accused of a capital offense by a 12-year-old white girl, barely missed being taken by a mob which menaced him and the officer Friday. Duncan was spirited out of town for safe keeping.

NEWPORT NEWS
VIRGINIA
OCT 17 1927

UPHOLDING THE LAW.

It was natural that the white men of Isle of Wight County should become aroused to the pitch of frenzy, when they looked upon the battered face and figure of that little girl who had been brutally outraged and murdered by a negro man. And it was not the white men alone who were thus aroused. Colored men who have daughters of their own were also aroused and joined the whites in pursuing the guilty wretch.

It may also be said that this brute in human form would have gotten his just deserts had he been captured by his pursuers and swung to the most convenient limb.

But there is another side of the case to be reckoned with. It is the side of law and order. When crime is committed in this State, it is for the law to deal with the offender and not the mob. Under the Virginia Bill of Rights every person accused of crime is entitled to a fair and impartial trial by a jury of his vicinage. He is entitled to a billof indictment, setting forth the nature of the accusation against him, and when arraigned in court, he has the right to introduce evidence in his behalf and to have a lawyer to defend him and see to it that all his rights are given him. And then it is for the jury to decide whether or not he is guilty and to fix his punishment as provided by law.

There can be no exceptions, no matter how heinous the offense may be, for if one is denied the right of trial, another may be; if the mob is allowed to wreak vengeance on one accused of crime, the innocent as well as the guilty might suffer from mob violence. Our court system in Virginia is quite competent to deal with all criminals, and there is no doubt that if the crime in Isle of Wight be proven on the negro accused, he will be convicted and sentenced to the electric chair.

Hence the officers of Isle of Wight who hurried the negro to jail outside of the county and did all they could to prevent the mob from locating him did their plain duty and are to be commended for their diligence. And that will be conceded, we are confident, by all law-abiding citizens of Isle of Wight. It was not the criminal, personally, that these officers protected; it was the law of the Commonwealth which they are sworn to uphold.

VIRGINIAN-PILOT
NORFOLK, VA
OCT 18 1927

Letting The Law Take Its Course

A blacker crime than that which terminated in the murder of fifteen-year-old Hilda Barlow near Smithfield Friday is not easily imagined. It was the work of a monster and the people of the neighborhood were, naturally, moved by it to a high pitch of excitement. What would have happened had the crowd been able to lay hands on the young Negro accused of the crime, in the first hot hours of its anger, is not pleasant to contemplate. There might have been a lynching. But the authorities acted with commendable dispatch to prevent the people from punishing one black crime with another. By swift and successive removals, Shirley Winnengen was taken to the jail in Richmond. Meantime it was announced that a special grand jury would be convened today in the county where the crime was committed and the trial begun shortly after. That is infinitely the better way. The people of Hilda Barlow's neighborhood will soon realize that is the better way if they do not already realize it. Instead of being dealt with by a mob, Shirley Winnengen is to be dealt with by a judge and jury. If he is the guilty person no one need fear that he will escape proper punishment for his crime.

Lynchings. 1927
Prevented.

Virginia.

2510

COLORED AID IN CAPTURE

Daughter Of White Farmer Assaulted And Murdered

MOB IS FRUSTRATED

Smithfield, Va., Oct. 15—The lynching of an apparently insane Negro was averted here today by the swift and courageous action of the sheriff and commonwealths attorney of Isle of Wight County, when a mob of grimfaced white men sought to secure Shirley Winnegan, 25, accused of one of the most horrible crimes ever recorded in Isle of Wight. Winnegan assaulted and then brutally murdered a white girl, 14 years old, named Hilda Barlow, daughter of a farmer.

Winnegan, it is stated, had been declared insane about sixty days ago but was permitted to remain here because there was not a vacancy in the asylum at that time. His act was apparently that of a crazy man. He choked and crushed the girl's face beyond recognition.

His capture was speedily effected by co-operation of white and colored citizens with the county sheriff.

After being arrested and taken to the place of the crime for questioning the sheriff of Isle of Wight county, Mr. W. A. Chapman, took him to the Suffolk jail for safe keeping as the feeling was too high here to think of taking him to the city or county jail.

A mob from Surry, Isle of Wight and surrounding counties quickly formed and threats were made to go to Suffolk and get Winnegan. Sheriff Chapman then ushered Winnegan to Petersburg.

A mob of about 250 or 300 men proceeded to Sheriff Chapman's home Saturday night and demanded that he tell them where Winnegan had been taken.

The chief witness against Winnegan was James Goodwin, colored youth, alleged to have been an eye witness to the brutal crime. It was Goodwin's story to the county officers that helped so materially in the apprehension of the alleged assailant. Other colored citizens of the community are said to have rendered material aid in his capture.

Suffolk, Oct. 18.—Shirley Winnegan, colored, charged with murder in connection with the brutal slaying last Friday of Hilda Barlow, 14-year-old white girl, near Smithfield, Isle of Wight county, was indicted today by a special grand jury, called for the purpose of considering the case at Isle of Wight Court House.

Many Attend Session

Winnegan will go on trial November 1, at Isle of Wight Court House with Judge B. D. White presiding. Before setting the date, Judge White conferred with the victim's father and the Commonwealth's Attorney to ascertain if the date was satisfactory with them. It was the first date upon which he would be free.

Several hundred quiet, grim-faced citizens were gathered at the old court-house, but, although feeling was known to be running high, no untoward event took place to shake the dignity of the court.

Judge White, in delivering instructions to the jury, referred to the crime which had so stirred the community, and urged them to uphold the law. He talked of the reputation of Isle of Wight citizens for being law-abiding and God-fearing, and said the processes of the law in such cases are swift and just.

The fact that Winnegan—who now is held in Richmond—recently was involved in lunacy proceedings added to the general unrest and high feeling that is prevailing among the citizens of Isle of Wight, who seem to fear that the accused may resort to an insanity plea and in that manner escape the full penalty of the law.

Mr. Whiteley's Statement

Commonwealth's Attorney Whiteley of Isle of Wight County, made the following statement, which is self-explanatory:

"Between 1 and 2 o'clock Saturday night, I was called by telephone from the home of a neighbor of Sheriff W. H. Chapman, and was advised that the wife of the sheriff desired to speak to me. She seemed much disturbed and advised me that a large number of men were demanding that the sheriff tell them where Winnegan, the prisoner, had been taken, and wanted to know what he must do.

"I told her if the prisoner was in a safe place I saw no reason why the sheriff should not tell them. Having learned that the sheriff was in trouble, I felt it my duty as attorney for the Commonwealth to go to his assistance, dressed and went to his home. [illegible] demanded

FOIL MOB SET UPON LYNCHING

Alert Sheriff Keeps Innocent Man From Hands of 500 Blood-thirty Fiends In Virginia

RICHMOND, Va., Oct. 19.—Whisked away from one place to another, Shirley Winnegan, 25 years old, who was taken as a suspect in connection with the death of a 14-year old white girl, was kept from the hands of a mob of nearly 500 whites. He was finally taken to the Richmond, Va., jail where it is thought he will be safe.

The mob worked systematically and quickly and but for the work of Sheriff H. W. Chapman might have slain an innocent man. When the news spread that Winnegan had been arrested in connection with the death of the white girl on the outskirts of Smithfield Friday, the mob went into the home of Sheriff Chapman Sunday and after cutting the telephone wire threatened violence against the law officer and his family if he did not divulge the whereabouts of Winnegan, Hilda Barlow's murderer.

The mob was told Winnegan had been taken to the Petersburg jail and immediately left for the place with the vowed intentions of lynching Winnegan.

Sheriff Chapman, however, quickly got in touch with authorities at Petersburg and the prisoner was removed to Richmond just before their arrival.

14-year-old Caucasian girl, is now resting in jail here.

Winnegan was saved by the sagacity of Sheriff H. W. Chapman. Hardly had the news spread that he had been arrested in connection with the crime, than a mob formed and called at the home of the officer. They cut the telephone wires and then threatened Chapman with violence if he did not divulge the whereabouts of the suspect.

The mob was told that Winnegan was in the Petersburg jail. Soon after they left however, Sheriff Chapman communicated with authorities in Petersburg and the prisoner was removed here immediately.

VIRGINIA SHERIFF SAVES SUSPECT FROM MOB OF FIVE HUNDRED

RICHMOND, VA., Oct. 26—After being whisked from place to place to avoid being seized by a mob of five hundred, Shirley Winnegan, 25, taken as a suspect in connection with the death of a

"He told me what had happened, and stated that he told the people who gathered at his home that the prisoner was in the Petersburg jail. He said they told him they would go after the prisoner and get him, and they obtained a promise from the sheriff that he would not phone or have any one phone the authorities in Petersburg.

"The sheriff kept his promise. I learned from him the situation surrounding the jail at Petersburg, and when I came home I came to the conclusion that the authorities at Petersburg should be put on their guard. Being an officer of the law, an arm of the court, with the knowledge which had come to me, it was my duty to assist in protecting the prisoner. My conscience would not be clear if I had failed to notify the authorities at Petersburg of what had happened. And so I called them on my own initiative and without the knowledge of the sheriff."

Lynchings- 1927
Prevented

West Virginia.

2508

W. VA. POLICE FRUSTRATE LYNCHING BY MOB OF 300

Charleston, W. Va., July 19.—(P.N.S.)—State police are said to have frustrated a lynching on Monday of last week when they spirited Constable A. S. Shamblin, white, from Putnam county jail to Kanawha county jail. Shamblin was arrested Monday morning, charged with having killed Peadley Newman, a coal miner.

Lynchings-1927
Rape: Alleged Attacks by Negroes.
2554
Alabama.
2554

MAGIC CITY POLICE TO QUESTION NEGRO

Black Suspected of Attacking Young Girl Is Removed to Jefferson County

ANNISTON, ALA., Feb. 17.—Special to The Advertiser.—Suspected of being implicated in the attack early Sunday morning on Miss Florence Seaver, daughter of Birmingham Salvation Army official, Marion, alias George Cook, negro, arrested in company with two other negroes here Tuesday, was escorted to Birmingham by officers Wednesday afternoon.

Cook, who first stated that his given name was Marion but later admitted that it was Acey, was arrested with his two companions near the southern railway station for unlawfully riding trains. His companions were given fines in recorder's court and Cook dismissed, but the officers decided to hold him. Bruises about his face and a note book found in his possession aroused suspicion in the minds of the officers.

NEGRO BEING SOUGHT.

Bloodhounds and Muscle Shoals Officers Hunt Girl's Assailant.

FLORENCE, Ala., Feb. 23.—Bloodhounds were put on the trail today and Lauderdale and Colbert county officers, led by S. E. Stafford, chief of the Muscle Shoals Detective Agency, are setting a dragnet for a negro who last night attacked a 15-year-old white girl near Wilson Dam.

According to the girl's story, the negro called at the back door of her home while her parents were away and asked for a drink of water. The attack followed.

WOMAN IS ATTACKED BY NEGRO IN DOTHAN

Attempts To Drag Her Into Alleyway and is Frightened by Screams

DOTHAN, ALA., March 5.—Special to The Advertiser.—A series of depredations in vicinity of Bell and West Main streets during the past week reached a climax last night, when a negro man seized a white woman as she was returning home from work along the south side of Main street between Bell and Pettus and attempted to drag here into an alleyway between two houses. The woman called for help and people living nearby came to her assistance. The negro was frightened away.

Although this was the first attack attempted upon a white woman, three negro women have been assaulted in the city, two in the same vicinity, within the past week. All of these negro women are cooks for white families, two living on Bell street.

Two homes on North Bell street have been burglarized, a third home on West Adams street, in the same section of the city, has been burglarized. A burglar stole from the home of B. M. Woodham, 205 North Bell, a pistol and a small amount of change. A small amount of change was taken from the home of G. H. Denton and a neckless and breastpin of some value, were taken from the home of Herman Cannon on West Adams street. About a week ago the 12 year old daughter of a prominent family on West Main street near Bell was returning home from town with a pitcher of milk. A negro man is said to have accosted her and slapped her on the shoulder, causing her to spill part of the milk.

A neatly devised tool box containing ten gallons of liquor was seized and two white men were arrested on charges of violating the prohibition law by Deputies John Hilsom and J. M. Rogers, Jr., at a negro frolic near Kinsey last night.

HOLD PORTER FROM FURY OF ALABAMA MOB

Is Sought for Attack in Pullman Car

Efforts are being made by authorities of Athens, Ga., to extradite Garrett Richardson, a Pullman porter, now being held in the county jail on a charge of attempting to assault Mrs. W. G. Martin, a young white woman, while a passenger in a Pullman car of which he was in charge on the L. and N. railroad a year ago.

A governor's warrant is said to be on its way here from the Alabama city requesting the return of Richardson, who has been indicted on the charge, which, he declares, has been framed against him by the Pullman conductor for the purpose of revenge.

Acting on advices from the Alabama authorities, Officers Sheehy and Reynolds of the Third district arrested Richardson April 3, at 4723 Prairie Ave., where he was on the job as janitor of this and other buildings.

Gets Out Writ

Efforts to free him on a writ of habeas corpus were made by Attorney Harold Tyler before Judge Harry S. Miller of the criminal court, on the ground that he had been arrested without a warrant. But when informed by the police that the warrant was on its way here, Judge Miller refused to discharge Richardson, but permitted his attorney to withdraw the writ without prejudice and continued the case for 10 days.

Richardson has been in Chicago a year and resided with an uncle at 623 E. Marquette Rd. According to his story, he was running between Cincinnati and New Orleans on the L. & N. railroad in April, 1926, when the woman who charged him with the attempted assault boarded his car at Louisville, Ky., on her way to Gulfport, Miss.

She had an upper berth in his car, Richardson said, and he noticed during the trip his conductor in close conversation with her the next morning. The conductor then approached and ordered him out of the car in the presence of two men. They threatened to "get him," Richardson said, if he left the train.

Acquitted in South

He was arrested in New Orleans, but was acquitted when he went to trial. Then he came to Chicago, leaving his wife and two children there. Richardson declared that the Pullman conductor said that he would "get him" if he had to pay $10,000 to do it.

"He had it in for me because I refused to bring him a package on one of my trips," Richardson said Thursday, "and he made it so unpleasant for me that I determined to quit the run. This charge was framed against me through prejudice," he added.

Richardson is scheduled to appear Friday morning, April 15, at the 48th St. court for another hearing of his case.

JUSTICE WINS AGAIN

When Judge William L. Lindsay, chief justice of the Chicago criminal court, refused to allow a Pullman porter to be returned to Alabama to stand trial for assaulting a woman, he proved again that justice in the North is not dead.

The porter had been arrested on a charge preferred by a Pullman conductor who had previously warned him that he would "get him" for some offense the porter had committed. No witnesses were produced to prove that the accused man had been guilty of any crime; just the word of the conductor and an alleged identification by a woman believed to be a friend of the conductor's. But immediately charges were preferred, the whole machinery of Alabama busied itself with the sole idea of trying the porter, and perhaps lynching him.

Judge Lindsay, looking at the evidence as presented by the attorney, who offered his services gratis, and balancing it against the evident personal interest manifest by the delegation from Alabama, refused to order the man held, thus saving that state from adding another crime to its record of crimes perpetrated in the name of justice and under the cloak of authority.

There is little doubt of what would have happened had the porter been returned to Athens, Alabama. Too many precedents have been set to leave any room for doubt. He could never have received a fair trial and would have been scheduled for a lynching—if not by the mob, then by the state. Alabama's reputation is too well known, and until she remedies it no northern judge will be aiding justice by returning a man of our Race down there for trial.

NEGRO KILLS WHITE MAN AFTER ATTEMPT TO ASSAULT CHILD

Oscar Burgess Sought by Conecuh Posse Near Evergreen For Double Tragedy at Farrish Farm

EVERGREEN, ALA., May 10.—(AP)—E. E. Farrish is dead and Oscar Burgess, 23-year-old negro, is being hunted in the woods near Belleville as a result of a shooting that took place yesterday following the negro's attempt to assault Farrish's 11 year-old daughter, it became known here today.

County authorities said the child had gone to a spring near the farm house when the negro approached her. She ran to the house and told her father who captured the negro at the point of a pistol with the intention of turning him over to the county authorities.

The negro overpowered Farrish, seized the gun and shot him through the head. Farrish was killed instantly.

A posse from Belleville and Evergreen was immediately formed by the sheriff of Conecuh county and a search started for the negro who fled into a nearby woods. He had not been found late today.

Farrish was 50 years old and is survived by a widow and several children.

The negro was a tenant of a nearby farm.

COURT SAYS INDICTMENT IS NO GOOD

Sustains Plea Of Defense Counsel To Cheat Southerners

When authorities from Limestone County, Alabama, appeared in criminal court Friday afternoon to resist the habeas corpus proceedings drawn up on behalf of Garrett Richardson, 4723 Prairie avenue, charged with a statutory offense against Mrs. W. G. Martin of that state, Judge William H. Lindsey refused to grant the extradition signed a week ago by Governor Len Small permitting the authorities of that state to take the man south to be arraigned.

The basis of his ruling rested upon four flaws found in the indictment by Attorney Harold M. Tyler. The indictment was declared void because it did not specify the time or place of the alleged act, nor was it properly attested.

Freed in 15 Minutes

The Alabama authorities presented W. T. Coleman, Pullman conductor as a witness, but he did not take the stand. After the defense had presented its case and in the midst of myriads of reasons submitted by the Limestone County prosecutor, Judge Lindsay stated that he would not honor the indictment as presented before the court.

Richardson was freed of the same charge in Louisiana nearly a year ago. He is alleged to have insulted the woman as she was about to descend from an upper birth in a Pullman car on which he was employed as a porter.

Coleman, the defendant said was the instigator of the entire affair because he (Richardson) refused to run an errand for him on one of the trips. Richardson was employed as a porter on the L. and N. road for five years.

ALABAMA MOB IS CHEATED OF LYNCH VICTIM

Extradition Writ Is Refused in Chicago

Attorney W. I. Sherrill and Sheriff J. E. Clem, both of Athens, Ala., who came to Chicago after Garrett Richardson, wanted in Athens on an alleged criminal assault charge, were cheated out of their prisoner Friday when Chief Justice William J. Lindsay of the Criminal court freed Richardson on a habeas corpus petition filed by his attorney, Harold M. Tyler.

Richardson's discharge by Judge Lindsay was the second one he has received on the same charge. The first was granted by Judge Benjamin C. Dawkins of the United States district court on a habeas corpus petition filed in New Orleans last August.

Make Hard Fight

Authorities of Athens, Ala., have been endeavoring for almost a year to get Richardson into their clutches on a blanket charge of attempting to assault Mrs. W. G. Martin, a young white woman, while a passenger on the Pullman car of which Richardson was the porter on the L. & N. railroad in April, 1926.

The indictment presented to Judge Lindsay by the Alabama attorney specified neither date nor place of the alleged crime charged against Richardson. The document merely stated that:

"The grand jury of Limestone county, Ala., charges that before the finding of this indictment, Garrett Richardson did assault Mrs. W. G. Martin, a woman, with the intent of forcibly to ravish her against the peace and the dignity of the state of Alabama."

Indorsed on the back of the indictment as witnesses are the names of Mrs. W. G. Martin and W. T. Coleman. The latter was Richardson's Pullman conductor, who, the porter asserts, framed the assault charge against him for revenge growing out of a perseonal grudge.

Sees Faulty Indictment

Judge Lindsay examined the indictment and the certified copy of Richardson's discharge in New Orleans by the United States district court obtained by Attorney Tyler.

The indictment, dated Jan., 1927, was returned nine months after the alleged crime, which was said to have been committed in April, 1926, the attorney pointed out.

"Is that all you have?" Judge Lindsay inquired, referring to the indictment which named neither date nor place of the alleged crime.

"That is all, your honor," the Alabama attorney answered. "The indictment is drawn according to the laws of Alabama. Specifying time or place of a crime in an indictment is not required by our laws," the attorney explained.

"In that case a man would have no chance to make a defense," Judge Lindsay pointed out. "If that is your law in Alabama, I wouldn't send any man back there. He would be unable to defend himself under such a blanket charge. Richardson is discharged," Judge Lindsay added. He further ordered the fugitive warrant in the hands of the police and the governor's warrant quashed.

Disappointed in the loss of their quarry, the Alabama attorney, the sheriff and his aid announced their intention to return for Richardson with another indictment bearing the date and place of the alleged crime.

Whites Applaud Negro In Court

Old Man Was Charged With Attempted Attack Upon A White Woman

New York, May 13—Report of one of the most unusual incidents to have occurred in any southern court room in recent years has just reached the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, in a report on the case of a 64 year old Negro farmer, Melvin Green, charged with "attempted attack" upon a white woman, in Birmingham, Ala.

When the aged colored man was brought up in court for preliminary hearing no less than 75 prominent white citizens, whom he had served with for 20 years and who had posted bond in his behalf, appeared in court.

A local newspaper report, published in the Birmingham Age-Herald of May 6, states: "Interest of the West End citizens became so intense at one time during the examination of defense character witnesses, that the delegation arose in a body and applauded. The judge admonished them and threatened to force them to leave the court room if the occurrence was repeated.

"The witnesses, some of whom testified they had known Green for 20 years and longer, paid a glowing tribute to the Negro's character. Most of the defense witnesses were women who represented housholders in a territory served by Green.

"One woman, by whom Green was employed for four years as a servant, and whom the Negro later served for many years as an ice man, entering her home daily, testified that Green's character could not be better. And many others testified that it was 'the very best'.

"The accuser in her testimony, charged that Green attempted to attack her when he entered her home to mak an ice delivery."

WOMAN ATTACKED BY NEGRO AT DORA

Dies on Way to Hospital After Telling Husband She Had Been Assaulted

DORA, ALA., Sept. 15—(AP).—Regaining consciousness long enough to tell her husband that she had been criminally attacked by a negro, Mrs. Mary Treece, her head crushed with a piece of slag, died on the way to a hospital here today after her limp body had been found at the edge of underbrush 50 yards from the Treece home.

Lee Treece, summoned from the house by neighbors who told him "he had better look after his wife," rushed to the briar patch to find the woman unconscious, her skull crushed and nude body lacerated and bruised from head to foot. Her clothes had been burned.

Neighbors called an ambulance and en route here Mrs. Treece became conscious long enough to tell of the attack but died before an accurate description of her assailant could be obtained. A strange negro seen in the neighborhood recently is believed by officers of Walker county to have committed the crime. Efforts to locate the negro today have proved fruitless.

According to Treece, his wife had left the house in search of wood for a fire preparatory to washing clothes. The Treece home is a half mile from Red Star, included in the Dora mining community.

Greatly aroused by the attack, miners of the community have organized themselves into several posses and headed by the Walker county sheriff and his deputies, are combing the vicinity in search of the negro.

DORA MAN IS HELD FOR WIFE'S MURDER

Treece, Who Claims Mate Was Attacked by Negro, Arrested

DORA, ALA., Sept. 16.—(AP)—J. Lee Treece and his son-in-law, Jim Tinker, were arrested late tonight on charges of first degree murder in connection with the death of Treece's wife, Mrs. Mary Treece.

Mrs. Treece was discovered early Thursday morning, supposedly by her husband, standing near her residence mortally wounded by a blow on the head and her clothing burned from her body.

Treece told deputy sheriffs that his wife, as she lay dying, declared a negro attacked her. Three negroes were also arrested tonight but officers declared the men will be released. Treece and Tinker both denied committing the crime.

Mistaken Identy? Maybe!

DORA, ALA., Sept. 22.—J. Lee Treece, 64, white farmer and miner, of Walker county, and his son-in-law, Jim Tinker, have been arrested on charges of first degree murder in connection with the death of Mrs. Mary Treece, who died last Thursday morning after her clothing was burned from her body and her scalp almost cut from her head with numerous blows from a rock.

Treece and Tinker were arrested after police picked up new evidence in the case following Treece's story that Mrs. Treece had regained consciousness long enough to tell him that she had been criminally "attacked by a Negro." Three race men were arrested and threats of a lynching were heard in the community until the police made the arrests of the husband and son-in-law of the murdered woman.

HAMMONTON, N. J., Sept. 22—Police are doubting the story of Mrs. Margaret T. Lilliendahl (white) that her husband, Dr. William Lilliendahl, was shot and robbed and she was beaten and attacked by two colored men as they motored along the Middle road, near here, Thursday night. Her story was so disconnected that authorities have held her for investigation. A possible love motive has been suggested as the reason for the crime. Attorneys for the woman declared she would be released on bail and court authorities would only say it would be "substantial," if any. Search for the alleged "two Negroes" has been practically abandoned, it is reported.

HUSBAND, 4 OTHERS HELD FOR MURDER

Negroes Had Been Accused in Death of Mrs. Mary Treece at Dora

Three men have been arrested and warrants were sworn out for two more in connection with the killing of Mrs. Mary Treece, of Dora, who was found mortally wounded near her home on Thursday morning and who died on the way to a hospital, Chief W. K. McAdory stated Saturday night when he returned from an investigation of the death of the woman, assisted by state enforcement officers.

Those arrested were: Lee Treece, 64, husband of the slain woman; Jim Tinker, son-in-law of the slain woman and "Skinny" Green, all coal miners. The trio were taken to the county jail at Birmingham. Names of the other two men, who are also charged with the murder, were not revealed, however, when they are arrested they will be taken to the Bessemer jail, Chief McAdory asserted.

The arrest of the two men resulted from a conference of Chief McAdory, Judge Ernest Lacy, Solicitor D. G. Wilkins, Assistant Solicitor M. E. Nettles and Chief Deputy Carmichael. Solicitor Wilkins after the conference authorized the sheriff to swear out the warrants for the five men.

Near the edge of the woods where the woman was found in a semi-conscious condition were pools of blood, a blooky rock and broken, tufts of hair. The body was badly burned. Mrs. Treece's scalp was gashed and her head bruised.

Four months ago a man named Pitts was killed near the Treece home and Mr. Treece was arrested and charged with the murder. His trial was set for the day that his wife was killed but was continued because of the death of the mother of one of the attorneys.

Lynchings - 1927

Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

Alabama.

2555

Birmingham Ala., Ne...

NOV 9 1927

NEGRO HELD FOR ATTACK

Morgan County Grand Jury Hears Evidence Of Assault On Woman

DECATUR, Ala., Nov. 9.—In advance of report from the Grand Jury, no action has been taken by the Circuit Court to afford an early hearing for Robert Gill, negro, held in the Morgan County Jail in connection with an alleged attack on Mrs. Otis McGee by a negro, who held her husband at bay with a pistol.

Mr. and Mrs. McGee appeared before the Grand Jury. They reside near Flint. Sunday morning early an intruder appeared in their home, and, brandishing a pistol, ordered Mr. McGee to remain quiet, while Mrs. McGee successfully resisted his struggles to overpower her.

Lynchings-1927

Rape,- Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

2552

Arkansas.

2562

Boy, 16, Must Face Serious Charges

Mob of 5,000 Thwarted in Search for Girl's Confessed Slayer

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., May 2.—Following an all-night futile search of jails for Lonnie Dixon, 16-year-old youth, who confessed to attacking and slaying 11-year-old Floella McDonald, white, a mob of almost 5,000 dispersed today.

Vowing that a lynching would follow as soon as the whereabouts of the youthful slayer was learned, members of the mob returned to the First Presbyterian Church, where the murder was committed April 12, and pledged themselves to form again as soon as the boy is found.

Police refused to divulge the hiding place of Dixon. An early trial with the death penalty demanded by the State, has been promised by officials. State troops will guard Dixon during the trial.

The body was found Saturday in the church belfry by Frank Dixon, janitor of the church, Lonnie's father. Dixon and his son were arrested, with several other suspects. After a night of questioning Lonnie told the police he had killed Floella.

TELEGRAM
SUPERIOR, WIS.
MAY 14 1927

They Regulated Traffic

A colored man was lynched in an Arkansas city the other day. After being hanged and shot full of bullets, his body was taken to a street corner in the negro section of town and burned.

The city where this happened was a good-sized, ordinarily well-regulated city. Probably you're wondering—"Where were the police while all of this was going on?"

Well, the last paragraph of the news dispatch that told of the lynching reads:

"The police directed traffic, which congested the streets for blocks around the scene."

SLEW CHILD OF 12, HID BODY IN BELFRY

Negro Boy Confesses—Father Found Corpse While Arkansas Church Choir Was Rehearsing.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., May 1 (AP).—A confession that he murdered Floella McDonald, 12 years old, and concealed her body in the belfry of the First Presbyterian Church, where it was found late yesterday, was obtained today from Lonnie Dixon, 16 years old, son of Fred Dixon, negro janitor of the church, the police announced tonight.

The youth who, with his father, has been held since the discovery of the body, told the police where the library book the girl was carrying home when she disappeared on April 12, and a part of her clothing might be found in a garage. They were found there, the police said.

The confession did not implicate his father, who gave to the ppolice the information which led to the discovery of the body while the choir was rehearsing in the church below. The elder Dixon reported finding the body to members of the choir.

A blood-stained brick, believed to have been used to kill the girl, was found beside her body.

NEGRO YOUTH INDICTED FOR KILLING GIRL OF 12

Little Rock Grand Jury Cautions Against Violence.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., May 3.—Lonnie Dixon, negro, 16, who confessed Sunday that he outraged and murdered Floella McDonald, 12-year-old girl, in the belfry of the First Presbyterian Church three weeks ago, was indicted by the Pulaski County grand jury this afternoon for criminal assault and murder. The grand jury filed the following statement with the court reporting the indictment:

"The grand jury has acted on this case with all the expediency allowable under the law. We are certain that your honorable court will bring the defendant before the bar of justice as quickly as our statutes will permit.

"We deeply sympathize with the family and friends of Floella. We are all fathers and can feel their distress and resentment, but the eyes of the entire nation are upon us. We are asking aid and assistance from the outside world for our many thousands of penniless and distressed citizens. We are advertising ourselves as a lawless, law-abiding people and we cannot afford to do other than let the law take its course in this case.

"We appeal to the indignant friends of Mr. and Mrs. McDonald to lay aside their resentment in favor of our courts, feeling that full justice will be meted out to this criminal, and that very quickly.

"This grand jury proposes to do its duty under any and all circumstances, and any misguided citizen who attempts to take the law into his own hands will have the same measure of justice meted out to him.

"It has been brought to our attention that a number of our peace officers' homes have been invaded and other unlawful acts committed by certain persons as yet unknown to us. This must stop immediately. This jury will meet daily and indictments will promptly be found against any one disturbing the peace and dignity of this community or interfering with our officers."

The jury took no action in the case against Frank Dixon, father of Lonnie and janitor of the church. He may be indicted later on the charge of accessory after the fact. Police are of the opinion that he had no knowledge of the murder until the body was recovered.

Son of Janitor Admits He Slew Girl in Church

MOB SEARCHES JAIL FOR YOUNG SLAYER.

Little Rock, Ark., May 1.—(AP)—Refusing to believe the official announcement that Lonnie Dixon confessed slayer of little 12-year old Floella McDonald had been removed from Little Rock immediately after his confession, an angry mob of between 4,000 and 5,000 broke into the main door of the penitentiary, fired several shots and dispersed after failing to find the negro. Their next move was to proceed by automobile to Benton, where a committee of five went through the jail. Not finding the prisoner they left immediately for Malvern.

Little Rock, Ark., May 1.—(AP)—Lured into the towering belfry of the First Presbyterian church to view the city, a 12-year-old girl was assaulted and then slain with a brick by Lonnie Dixon, negro, 16-year-old son of the church janitor, the youth confessed today to police.

The confession, following hours of severe questioning, came just 24 hours after her decomposed body was discovered in the stuffy belfry and 19 days after she mysteriously dropped from sight.

After breaking down and admitting the gruesome crime, the youth told police where they might find the book which the girl was carrying home from the library when she was accosted, and parts of her clothing. They were buried in a garage several blocks from the scene of the crime.

The youth's confession exonerated his father, Fred Dixon, of any connection with the crime. The elder Dixon gave police information yesterday which led to discovery of the body.

Detecting an odor from the belfry, he climbed the 50-foot ladder, peered into the semi-darkened room and felt a shoe. He hurried back down the ladder and notified members of the church choir, which was rehearsing in the auditorium.

In his confession the negro youth described the events leading up to the murder, which police say probably will send him to the electric chair.

The girl, daughter of Chas. McDonald, a machinist, was on her way home from the city library, where she had obtained a copy of a popular novel of a decade ago. Rain began falling as she neared the First Presbyterian church, an imposing edifice only a block off Main street. She sought shelter.

The negro boy, who was standing across the street, saw her enter the church.

He said he followed her into the building and persuaded her to accompany him up the ladder to the belfry for a view of the city. He followed her up the ladder, his confession said, and then assaulted her.

She screamed for help and threatened to tell her father, he said. It was then, he said, that he seized a brick and beat her over the head until she was dead. The blood-stained brick lay beside the body when it was found.

NEGRO LAD ADMITS SLAYING GIRL, 12

Lured Victim to Church Belfry and Beat Her With Brick, Youth, 16, Says

LITTLE ROCK, ARK., May 1.—(AP)—Lured into the towering belfry of the First Presbyterian church to view the city, 12-year-old Flo Ella McDonald, was assaulted and then slain with a brick by Lonnie Dixon, negro, 16 year old son of the church janitor, the youth confessed today to police.

The confession, following hours of severe questioning, came just 24 hours after her decomposed body was discovered in the stuffy belfry and 19 days after she mysteriously dropped from sight.

After breaking down and admitting the gruesome crime, the youth told police where they might find the book which the girl was carrying home from the library when she was accosted, and parts of her clothing. They were buried in a garage several blocks from the scene of the crime.

The youth's confession exonerated his father, Fred Dixon, of any connection with the crime. The elder Dixon gave police information yesterday which led to discovery of the body.

Detecting an odor from the belfry, he climbed the 50 foot ladder, peered into the semi-darkened room and felt a shoe. He hurried back down the ladder and notified members of the church choir which was rehearsing in the auditorium.

Youth Confesses He Slew Girl, Left Body in Church

Little Rock, Ark., May 1.—(AP)—A confession that he murdered 12 year old Floella McDonald and concealed her body in the belfry of the First Presbyterian church, where it was found yesterday, was obtained today from Lonnie Dixon, 16 year old son of Fred Dixon, Negro janitor of the church, police announced tonight.

Mob Forms at Church To Kill Accused Negro

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., May 2.—Following an all-night futile search of jails for Lonnie Dixon, 16, Negro who Sunday was forced to confess he criminally assaulted and murdered Floella McDonald, a mob of almost 5,000 people dispersed today.

Vowing that a lynching would follow as soon as the whereabouts of the Negro was learned, the mob returned to the First Presbyterian Church and pledged themselves to form again as soon as the Negro was located. An early trial, with the death penalty demanded by the State, was promised by officials.

NEGRO SLAYER OF GIRL SENT TO DISTANT CITY

Mob of Several Thousand Storms State Penitentiary.

AROUSED BY CONFESSION

Citizens of Little Rock Vengeful Over Attack on Floella McDonald and Murder With Brick. Boy's Father Held.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., May 2.—(AP)—Behind prison bars in some distant city, safe from a mob which searched a dozen jails for him last night, Lonnie Dixon, 16-year-old son of a negro janitor, tonight was meditating the slaying of 12-year-old Floella McDonald, while machinery was set in motion here to bring him to speedy justice.

Feeling still was high here tonight over the crime which came to light Saturday with the discovery of the girl's body in the belfry of the First Presbyterian Church, where the young negro's father was employed as janitor.

Twenty-four hours after the elder Dixon detected a strange odor in the building while the church choir was rehearsing for Sunday morning services and gave police information which led to the finding of the body, young Dixon confessed, police announced, that he lured the girl into the belfry on April 12, and there attacked and killed her with a brick.

When news of the confession spread a mob of several thousand formed but both the young negro and his father had been spirited out of the city.

The mob, after storming the gates of the state penitentiary and searching that prison, then going through the city and county jail here and those in Benton, Malvern and Hot Springs, dispersed early today.

The two negroes were said by police today to be in separate jails outside the state. When they will be returned has not been announced, but Prosecuting Attorney Boyd Cypert prepared to present evidence to the county grand jury tomorrow with a view to obtaining indictments.

Speedy trials will be arranged, the prosecutor said.

The elder Dixon was not implicated in the boy's confession, but police still were investigating to determine whether he had knowledge of the crime.

NEGRO BOY CONFESSES BEATING GIRL TO DEATH

Heinous Crime Bared When Janitor's Son Breaks Down.

LURED GIRL INTO BELFRY

Mystery of Missing Floella McDonald, Little Rock School Girl, Is Cleared—Negro Spirited Away by Police to Forestall Mob.

LITTLE ROCK, May 1.—(AP)—Lured into the towering belfry of the First Presbyterian church to view the city, 12-year-old Floella McDonald there was assaulted and then slain with a brick by Lonnie Dixon, 16-year-old son of the church janitor, the youth confessed late today, according to the police.

The confession, following hours of severe questioning, came just 24 hours after her decomposed body was discovered in the stuffy belfry and nineteen days after she mysteriously dropped from sight.

After breaking down and admitting the gruesome crime, which has stirred Little Rock as has no other crime in several years, the youth told police where they might find the book which the girl was carrying home from the library when she was accosted, and parts of her clothing. They were buried in a garage several blocks from the scene of the crime.

Exonerates His Father.

The youth's confession exonerated his father, Fred Dixon, church janitor, of any connection with the crime. The elder Dixon gave police information yesterday which led to discovery of the body.

Detecting an odor from the belfry, the janitor climbed the 50-foot steep ladder, peered into the semi-darkened room and felt a shoe. He hurried back down the ladder and notified members of the church choir which was rehearsing in the auditorium.

In his confession the negro youth described the events leading up to the murder, which police say probably will send him to the electric chair.

The girl, daughter of Charles McDonald, a machinist, was on her way home from the City Library, where she had obtained "Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch."

Rain began falling as she neared the First Presbyterian Church, an imposing edifice only a block off Main Street. She sought shelter.

Followed The Child.

The negro boy, who was standing across the street, saw her enter the church.

He said he followed her into the building and persuaded her to accompany him up the ladder to the belfry for a view of the city. He followed her up the ladder, his confession said and then assaulted her.

She screamed for help and threatened to tell her father, he said. It was then, he said, that he seized a brick and beat her over the head until she was dead. The blood-stained brick lay beside the body when it was found.

Because of the intense feeling aroused by the ghastly crime, the negro was spirited out of the city to some unannounced destination tonight.

The finding of the book and clothing where the bay had told police they were buried gave corroboration to his tory, police said.

Since the discovery of the body police had centered their efforts to fasten the crime upon the negro janitor or his son or both.

The strange disappearance of little Floella McDonald on the afternoon of April 12 and that of 13-year-old Lonnie White the day before, furnished police one of the most puzzling mysteries confronting them here in several years.

Boy Still Missing.

Clue after clue was followed in the search for the two, but without result.

The mystery surrounding the disappearance of the boy has not yet been solved.

Police at first were inclined to connect the two cases, but the manner in which the girl was slain has convinced them there was no connection.

The two children were made the subjects of one of the most thorough searches ever made for missing children in this city.

Hundreds of men formed searching parties and sought the children in the flooded bottoms surrounding the city and in many vacant houses and other buildings here.

The police had virtually abandoned hope of ever finding either when yesterday's call sent them to the fashionable church, the last place they would have suspected of holding the key to the mystery of the girl's disappearance.

On Easter morning while the girl's body lay in the belfry, special prayers had been offered in the church below for her safe return to her parents. Prayers likewise were offered at other churches in the city that day.

Armed Posse Joins Officers In Search For Negro Assailant

LITTLE ROCK, ARK., May 24.—(AP)—City and county officers and an armed crowd of more than 100 men were early tonight searching for the negro who criminally assaulted a white woman who was picking flowers in her back yard in Park Hill, one of the most fashionable sections of the city. A negro had been arrested tonight but had not been identified.

OFFICERS SEEK NEGRO FOR ATTACK ON WOMAN

Little Rock Again Aroused By Fresh Assault.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., May 24.—(AP)—City and county officers and an armed crowd of more than 100 men were early tonight searching for the negro who criminally assaulted a woman who was picking flowers in her back yard in Park Hill, one of the most fashionable sections of the city. A negro had been arrested tonight but had not been idenntified.

The negro was to be taken to the woman's house for identification but when Sheriff Haynie saw an armed posse before the house, he abandoned the plan and took him back to jail. Later it was ascertained that the description given by the woman did not fit the man and he was released.

The woman told officers that she was about 100 feet from her back door picking flowers when the negro attacked her, striking her over the head and then choking her into insensibility.

After the assault, she made her way to the house and spread the alarm.

The assault took place about 3 o'clock, within 75 yards of three houses in the fashionable part of Park Hill. The woman was employed as housekeeper for a prominent family.

Officials believed that the heavy rain of the early evening would serve to disperse the volunteer posse.

Bloodhounds were sent for from Hot Springs, but the heavy rain would render them virtually useless.

SMILES AT WHITE WOMAN

RECORD SAVES HIM

Little Rock, Arkansas, February 22.—Oscar Warner, arrested several days ago by Motorcycle Patrolman Barrett on a charge of insulting white women, was dismissed by Municipal Judge Lewis yesterday after several business men had testified as to his good reputation. A white woman, the prosecuting witness, said the man smiled at her as he passed in an automobile, and also sounded the klaxon of his car and made a motion as if inviting her into the auto.

MOB ATTACKS NEGRO YOUTH; 15 ARE HELD

Eldorado, Ark.—Fifteen men were in custody at Camden, near here, facing charges of riotous activities as a result of the wounding of a 14 year old Negro boy, who was seized by a mob of nearly 200 men. The mob was searching for an alleged Negro assailant of a 19-year old white girl.

Thad Stevens, the Negro boy, saw the crowd of enraged white men approaching and ran. When members of the mob called to him to halt and he failed to obey the order, he was fired upon. The youth dropped to the ground, although he was not seriously wounded, and was seized by his pursuers. It was proven later, when the victim of the attempted assault failed to identify him, that the wounded Negro was not the one being sought in connection with the crime.

Lynchings - 1927

Rape: Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

Arkansas.

2553

Second Installment

IF EVER the world was presented with a more uncivilized spectacle of the ineradicable savagery and the blind, unreasoning love of torture in twentieth century man than that presented in Little Rock's attitude toward Lonnie, I have not heard of it. His crime, if he did it, terrible as it was—and no one in Little Rock can feel more deeply shocked by it than I, whose own little daughter is so nearly the same age as Floella—that crime was, in the last analysis, the result of improper environment and improper training. But the men who are preparing to take part in Lonnie's legalized lynching consider themselves the cream of the South. The line between them and the man who killed John Carter is so fine that one can scarcely distinguish it.

At that, Lonnie Dixon was lucky to get even the farce of a trial, for the rumor had been circulated in Little Rock—and not so secretly, either—that from 500 to 1,000 citizens had pledged themselves, under the leadership of men who had been overseas, to take Lonnie forcibly from the police and sheriff when they brought him back on May 19, and through him "teach all the other niggers of Arkansas a lesson they'll never forget." (One heard this phrase to the point of ludicrously tragic monotony.) People said freely that if Chief Rotenberry were put in charge and given a free hand, the mob would be handled. For he is a fearless and capable man who has been shot more than once in the performance of his duty. The general opinion in Little Rock is that it was through no fault of his own that he was not permitted to deal properly with the situation there. (People are indeed very bitter toward him because of his successful transfer of Lonnie.) But unfortunately it is Mayor Moyer who officially is the head of the police force, and he has stubbornly protested that he approves in retrospect his whole program which resulted in such disgraceful violence. However, the Governor of Arkansas himself told me that he intended to be at his post in Little Rock on that day and to see to it that there was no rioting. John Martineau is a strong and forceful man, who feels deeply the disgrace incurred by his State through the scenes of early May, and all who know him were confident that under his guidance order would indeed prevail.

It was on April 12 that Floella disappeared. The day before, a little boy, Lonnie White, had also disappeared. His body was subsequently found in the river on May 7, but at the time the two disappearances occurred they, naturally enough, were connected in the minds of the people. Very close to $1,500 was offered in rewards for their return. Circulars about the missing children were issued by mail and dropped from airplanes even in the surrounding States, and the police combed every corner of the city. It is during this time that I think it not in the least improbable that the little girl's body and hat may have been found. But 18 days passed and the double mystery was unsolved.

Then, on Saturday afternoon, April 30, the janitor of the First Presbyterian Church, Lonnie Dixon's father says he decided to investigate a stench he had been noticing for several days. The result was that he informed the police of the presence of the dead body, but the impression they got was that it was a man's. Two officers and the coroner, Dr. Samuel Boyce, with whom I discussed the case fully, went at once to the scene. Dr. Boyce, who was surgeon for the 2nd battalion, 137th infantry, of the Rainbow Division and repeatedly wounded overseas, could not speak of it without deep emotion. Floella had, to put it plainly, been dead so long that it was only by her clothing that she could be positively identified.

which is one of the most fashionable in the city. (On two Sundays, April 17 and 24, large congregations had assembled as usual and praised God for His goodness, all unaware of the pathetic, gruesome object that, far above them, lay half hidden under the very chimes that summoned the people to prayer.)

The little body was wrapped in a blanket and lowered to the outside of the church. Lonnie and seven other Negroes who were known to frequent the neighborhood were arrested as suspects and others questioned. A little girl of eight years had told her parents that on April 12 a colored boy had said to her that if she would come to the church at 5 o'clock she would be given a toy. They informed the police and, brought, she pointed out Lonnie as the boy who had said this to her. For hours and hours, under the most determined grilling, both Lonnie and his father protested innocence of the whole affair. Luckily for Frank Dixon he had been seen at the ball game on the afternoon of the tragedy. But the combined facts that it was alleged that Lonnie had been at the Little Rock Boys' Club at the time (the janitor of it was a friend of his father's); that the little girl had pointed him out as the one who had urged her to come to the church; and that on the whole he would have been the most likely person to have been about it and most thoroughly familiar with it—all made suspicion center on him. In the mood in which the people of Little Rock were, someone had to be found—and that quickly—upon whom public resentment could be fastened. This the police fully realized. Instinctively every father and mother had put themselves in the place of little Floella's parents. The town was in an uproar.

It was on Sunday afternoon, May 1, that the little girl's funeral, a large one, was held. All day the public had been permitted to visit the undertaking rooms in which, wrapped in a chemically treated winding sheet, she lay in a closed coffin. It was that same afternoon that Lonnie is alleged to have confessed and to have led the police to the garage where he had hidden Floella's hat and book. What followed was to Chief Rotenberry's everlasting credit. He took the boy directly to Oakland cemetery, where he was joined by officers in a high-powered car, who, starting with Lonnie some minutes after an express train, overtook it and delivered him into the hands of a sheriff who had been notified of his coming. At the same time realizing that in the state of mind in which the people were they were likely to wreak their vengeance on Lonnie's father if they could not get hold of the boy, Rotenberry had Frank Dixon conveyed to another town.

On one point only the chief may or may not have made a mistake. Many people in Little Rock feel that the identity of Floella's slayer should have been kept secret until his trial. But who is to say that in the meanwhile rumor might not have settled on some wholly innocent party who might have paid the price of the error by death and even torture? At any rate the chief let the newspapers know the facts as we are to understand he believed them. Then the storm broke.

A mob of some thousands of people (estimates vary from 3,000 to 5,000) surrounded the city hall, in the basement of which the city jail is located, and demanded Lonnie. When the mayor addressed the hysterical people they hooted him down. When the police spoke to them, they hooted them down. A minister attempted to calm them and he also was jeered, as was a justice of the Supreme Court. Right here, of course, was where occurred the first big mistake, the logical result of which was the lynching of John Carter and the wild riot which followed it. That first mob should have been summarily and peremptorily dispersed. Governor Martineau earnestly advised the mayor and chief of police to do so. He urged that they use the hose and even tear bombs if necessary, pointing out to them that whether or not Lonnie was actually in that jail was irrelevant; the people had no right to assemble in such disorderly fashion before it. To permit them to do so was to court violence.

(For years John E. Martineau, now in later middle life, was Judge of the Chancery Court, where he was known as a man fair in consideration of evidence, just in his decisions, and immovable when he considered himself right. Through Mrs. Bernie Babcock—best known for her series of popular books on Lincoln—who has lived nearly 50 years in Arkansas, I met the governor and his wife. Both are cultivated, charming people of whom any State might well be proud. In their own pleasant home we discussed, informally, the situation.)

Mayor Moyer insisted to the governor, on that Sunday evening, that he had matters in hand, but continued to pursue a wholly mollifying and ineffective policy, absolutely refusing to allow any show of force. (It is interesting at this point to conjecture what his attitude would have been had three to five thousand Negroes surrounded the city hall demanding an alleged white slayer of a Negro girl!) The police did make some abortive attempts to keep the crowd moving and even arrested some 18 of the most flagrant offenders. But the people, quickly realizing that they were not going to be firmly dealt with, grew more and more demanding. Committee after committee was sent by the mob through the building that they might see with their own eyes that Lonnie was not there. Sometimes, in ribald fashion, the mob, hooting, would repudiate the information of the committee and immediately another would be formed.

As the crowd grew a rumor rippled through it that Lonnie had been taken to the penitentiary at the edge of town and about 2,000 or more (so Warden Todhunter told me) rushed out to the institution. The walls around it are 24 feet high. To the left of it, as one approaches, is the office and warden's residence. Many of the people were armed and a few amused themselves by shooting. (A shot went through the screen door of the office.) Some of the prisoners had been working on the road that day and had left their picks in front of the gate. As the hysterical men and women came storming up the hillside to it one of the mob members grabbed up a pick and with it broke open the padlock on the big iron gate. Into the grounds they streamed—about 150 of them.

Todhunter is no coward. A tall man of about 48, he has cold eyes—very brown they are—and a level glance. He is quiet-spoken, is Todhunter, and can be gentle enough at times. Even as he led me around to show me just "who stood where" his little grandson came to him with a baby sparrow that had fallen out of its nest. The fashion in which his big finger stroked the little bird's head was the essence of gentleness. But underneath that kindness he is all steel. I was told that while he is not a man that the prisoners love, they do have for him genuine respect.

Certainly, in this emergency, he acted with decision. He stepped at once from the door of the office into the grounds, making a half circle that brought him face to face with the crowd. As he went he pulled out his six-shooter and calmly pointed it at them. What he said was short and to the point: "Get out!" They went. As they went he strode after them and down the hill they scampered (which all goes to show what one determined man can do). As they retreated, however, more shots rang out. He followed them to a distance of about 50 feet outside the gate. But when they reached a big tree, partly down the hill, he got to thinking—as he explained to me—"Well, that boy isn't in here and they might as well know it." So he called to them to wait and as they listened he said: "Now, folks, you can't come in here this way. But if you'll pick out a committee of five, I'll take it through." It was quickly selected. They were thoroughly and completely satisfied.

Understand, the city was in a turmoil. Crowds were milling around here and there. Some hundred-odd, at last convinced that Lonnie was not in Little Rock, even motored to Benton; others went to Melvern. Those who had been at the jail would go out to the penitentiary walls and those who had been at the penitentiary would go back to the city hall. And through it all, the mayor, backed by the city council, insisted that there be no show of positive authority. Meanwhile, a little group, perhaps 100 in all, had held a conclave of its own, and had sent its spokesman to the prosecuting attorney to get his assurance that there would be no chance of Lonnie's escaping the electric chair. Their minds set at rest on this point, they then—and only then!—these noble citizens, gave their moral support to the idea of the boy's being permitted to pass through the form of a trial. It was 2 o'clock before the crowd

dispersed. The last one left muttering threats against the mayor and the chief of police for having defrauded them of what they felt was their just prey—Lonnie Dixon.

Nor did the excitement by any means abate during Monday. "He ought to be lynched, the damned nigger! Burning's too good for him!" Over and over they made these statements to each other and detailed stories—absolutely unprintable and without any foundation—of what happened in the belfry (as if the bare facts were not gruesome and terrible enough!) ran through the city. I was repeatedly told some of the stories as positive facts in minutiae by women, and in more or less openly veiled fashion by men. "Why, they say—" the story would begin, to be finished in a stage whisper behind hand held close to cheek. As I had talked to the coroner, I knew, of course, all that was to be known, and by this could realize how everything had been fictionized. But the point is that these people who told me these stories absolutely believed them. They wanted to believe them.

By Monday night the crowd had again worked itself to the point of hysteria. Again they surrounded the city hall: again they went out to the penitentiary. This time the warden had ten men with guns just inside the walls and, standing on the porch of his house, made a talk to the people. It is significant that they listened to him respectfully. But at the city hall the same weak-kneed policy prevailed, although, as on Sunday night, individuals who became particularly obstreperous in the crowd were arrested, some 30-odd in all, a number of whom were women. Mayor Moyer's point was, of course, that the dangerous intensity of the crowd had passed and that if not antagonized it would subside from sheer inertia.

Presently animosity began to center on Chief Rotenberry. He has two children: a lovely daughter of 18 and a boy of 11. Decidedly he is a family man of the sort who likes to take his wife and children with him on his various good times. His devotion to his family is well-known in Little Rock. "Let's take his kids out, and then he'll tell where the nigger is!" the murmur ran. "When we get through with them perhaps he'll not be such a 'nigger-lover'!" All sorts of threats and suggestions of what might make him tell Lonnie's whereabouts flew thick, but nothing came of them except that a detachment went out to Rotenberry's home. They found no one there, for, by the mayor's orders, he had taken his family elsewhere. The roughnecks contented themselves with searching his house in no ceremonious fashion. Another detachment, similar but milder, paid a visit to Mayor Moyer's home, and a few even went out to Chief of Detectives Pitcock's. There their intentions evaporated into a few hoots, for the character of that loughty officer is well known.

When he was sheriff of Crawford County, Arkansas, a mob attempted to take a Negro from the jail. Pitcock stood at an upstairs window and said, "Folks, you're all my friends and neighbors, but this nigger is under my protection. I'll kill the first man that takes a step forward, and I'll kill everyone that follows if I have to pile the doorway full of you." They knew he meant it, and the mob dispersed. Not one drop of blood was shed. It was while he was sheriff of that county that it occasionally became his grim duty to become hangman. Hard as flint is Pitcock and I should not like to be the prisoner sweated by him. But he is utterly fearless; wholly capable of dealing with the most dangerous people. For years he was superintendent of the State penitentiary. (Todhunter was trained under him.) And to this day people tell of a desperate mutiny of 150 convicts he quelled on Cummins (convict) farm. It was he who, when 1 o'clock came on Monday night (and a crowd was still in front of the city hall), on his own initiative, went to the steps, pulled out his watch and said: "I'll give you ten minutes to get away from here, everyone of you—and three of the ten minutes are gone." In less than another five no one was left! (Which goes to show how effectual this attitude all along the line would have been.) But during the uproar Sunday and Monday evenings this capable officer (who, incidentally, has often been wounded) was forbidden, even as Chief Rotenberry was forbidden, to take the matter in hand. (Either of these two men, I am convinced, if permitted a proper show of authority, could have handled that mob without serious consequence to anyone.)

Be that as it may, when on Tuesday the city seemed to have relaxed into some state of calm, praises buzzed about the mayor. He felt, and his friends felt, that his course had been more than justified. Even those who deplored the fact that Little Rock, to all intents and purposes, had been turned over to the rabble to be trampled on and jeered at for two nights, still congratulated Moyer because there had been no bloodshed, and the chief on the fact that Lonnie Dixon, safely protected, would be brought to trial.

At the same time the seething undercurrent of bitterness and hatred toward the chief of police and the mayor, because they had succeeded in getting the boy away, continued. But the authorities were convinced, and, I rather believe, were justified in their feeling, that the mass hysteria was subsiding; that it had spent its force. The governor, who all this time, disapproving the policy followed by Moyer, had held himself in readiness to take the situation in hand, now considered the crisis over and left for Van Buren to be the guest of honor on Wednesday, May 4, at that town's annual strawberry festival. Tuesday night Little Rock seemed indeed, except for mutterings and more or less hysterical talk, to have returned to normal. For the first time in three days the city was quiet.

The Lynching

Fourteen miles from Little Rock in the foothills of the Ozark Mountains and the very heart of the wild timber is a little clearing of 18 acres. Something like a mile from there the rocky, steam-crossed, little traveled wagon road became impassable for our automobile—at least in the opinion of the man driving it. So I went the rest of the way afoot. The silence and denseness of the woods made one feel as remote as if in a forest primeval. Under the oak and hickory trees blazed the scarlet flowers of the buckeye brush. Needles lay thick and soft beneath the pines. The little glens were pools of sunlight, but everywhere else were spilled shadows of blue and tawny-brown. Moss covered many of the fallen logs and stones, among which slipped the clear shallow streamlet. Into the profound quiet the sudden haunting songs of bright birds splashed and sank.

Once where there were no stepping stones I was compelled to wade and at last, in the late afternoon, I saw before me on a hill a neat unpainted house, surrounded by rolling, cultivated farmland. Around the whole place ran a mixed paling and split-rail fence which had been beaten to gray satin by the weather. Inside the first enclosure, immediately around the house, was a small yard. As I came through the gate a man, a boy, a vociferously barking bird dog, and a more nondescript mongrel simultaneously emerged and came to meet me. The man was B. E. Stewart, husband and father of the two women who had been attacked Wednesday morning by a Negro, John Carter, who later that same day was lynched.

"Are Glennie and her mother home?" I asked.

Stewart explained that his wife was still unable to leave the Research Hospital, to which she had been taken, and that Glennie was in town with her. But he very hospitably—after a swift, not unkindly but wholly effective kick at the dogs—led me to a high porch, the roof of which was supported by unplaned poles made from saplings.

"Fetch a chair for the lady," he commanded the tow-headed, blue-eyed, 13-year-old youngster in patched overalls—Leo by name.

Stewart is a man of medium height—somewhere in his fifties I took him to be—yellow-haired, blue-eyed, and wears a drooping yellow moustache. Like his wife (a woman of 47) he was born and reared in the lower part of Arkansas, "right next to Louisiana." A kindly, friendly backwoodsman, by trade a carpenter, he has worked hard to own this wooded land place of 160 acres which he bought ten years ago and on which for the last nine he has lived and reared his family. Much of the time he is kept busy at his trade in town, and when he is away Glennie, Leo and even the mother hitch up one or both of their mouse-colored mules and with them plow and cultivate little crops of sweet and Irish potatoes, peanuts, strawberries, cabbages and corn. Also they look after the garden, their five cows, the pigs and of course the chickens.

(Continued Next Week)

Lynchings - 1927
Rape: Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

California

2548

ASSERTED KIDNAPING HEADLINER OF DAILY PROVES OUT FIZZLE

In Friday's Record, local daily, there appeared a glaring headline which told of the kidnapping of a fifteen-year-old Mexican girl by an "UNIDENTIFIED NEGRO," after he had lured the relatives of the girl from the home at 804 Roosevelt street.

The asserted kidnapper is said to have told the girl's mother and sister he had a job for them at Avenue 26 and Griffith avenue. They accompanied him to the place, according to the news story, and remained away from home for some time.

Upon their return, they discovered the absence of the younger child, Enriqueta Fabian, and notified Capt. J. R. Edwards.

2-17-27

According to the impression given by this headline, the boy suspected of kidnapping the girl either brought harm to her or intended to do so and consequently, considerable sentiment was stirred because of the incompleteness of the news and the fact that the suspect is still at large.

The case was turned over to Detectives Sheffield and McClanahan of central Station who conducted a thorough investigation.

A Pacific Defender reporter also investigated the case and makes the report that the boy took the mother and elder sister away, as stated in the Decord. Then, returning to the house of the Mexican women, he called for the younger girl, Enriqueta, and she went away with him.

The girl declares he told her that her mother wanted her to come to work with her and her sister. Stopping the car at a place on the Eastside, the location of which the girl does not recall, he told her to go in and find her mother. He left her there and drove away, according to her statement.

Girl Gets Lost

On knocking at the door of the house and inquiring for her mother, Enriqueta failed to find her relatives. She was too far away from home and unfamiliar with the district to get back in less than three or four hours. It was during this period of absence that the mother notified Capt Edwards.

Declares Herself Unhurt

The girl told our reporter that she had neither been insulted or assaulted by the black boy; that he had not tried to force her to go with him or to use force in carrying her away. In fact, he had not tried to force her to do anything.

All the women declare they could not identify the lad if anybody should be arrested by police in connection with the case, they did not want "anything done to him."

Persons in the neighborhood with whom the reporter talked think the "kidnapping" to have grown out of a clandestine love affair between the black boy and the little Spanish beauty, and the Black boy who used the clever ruse to get her relatives away while they stole off for a spin in his Ford.

Lynchings - 1927

Rape: Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

Delaware.

2550

Delaware Mob Makes Threats To Lynch Negro For Assault

Wilmington, Del.—An angry mob surrounded the Sussex County jail in southern Delaware Tuesday evening threatening violence to Carl A. Skinner, 27, colored, charged with criminal assault on an 85-year old woman.

4-9-27

State police and deputy sheriffs guarded the jail, which occupies the first floor of the sheriff's home. Feeling against the prisoner was growing tense and frequent threats to lynch him were made by the crowd.

Lynchings- 1927
Rape Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

D.C.

2549

ALLEGED D. C. RAPIST IS OF MORON TYPE

Court Moves Rapidly In Trial Of Case Which Upset Capital

VERDICT MAY BE THE ELECTRIC CHAIR

"Third Degree" Of Police Described; Alibi Witnesses Ready

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The trial of Philip Jackson on a charge of criminally assaulting Daisy Welling, white, in the Capitol grounds on the night of February 18th, moved swiftly Monday.

But little time was lost with the selection of a jury, which may add to its verdict the words "with the death penalty", sending Jackson to the electric chair in the case that he is found guilty of the charge. Justice A. A. Hoehling presides.

Challenges

John H. Wilson, an attorney, representing the accused, was contented with the selection of men for jury service who were engaged in business. He used a peremptory challenge in rejecting a motorman. His questions to the talesmen were confined largely to whether they entertained any prejudice toward people on account of color.

Women were advised to leave the court by the judge, but none [illegible]

The Government attorneys [illegible] cuting the case, Assistant [illegible] States Attorneys William H. [illegible] and James Shea, were [illegible] knowing of the talesmen w[illegible] they had any conscientious scru[illegible] against the death penalty. A [illegible] prisingly few had, as compared with those who have conscientious scruples against imposing the death penalty in first degree murder cases.

Mrs. Welling On Stand

Mrs. Welling testified that on the night of the crime about 11.30 she was on her way home from work in a hotel where she was employed as a telephone switchboard operator. In the Capitol grounds, opposite the Congressional Library, she noticed a man. He followed her. She dropped her handkerchief. She stooped to pick it up. He also stooped to do likewise. She reached it first. He grabbed her, knocked her unconscious, dragged her behind some bushes and assaulted her.

Twice Identified

In Casualty Hospital on Sunday, February 2, police took Jackson to her bedside. She identified him as her assailant. He and six or seven other colored men again faced her for identification in the Providence Hospital, to which she was removed. She picked out Jackson.

Aging Flapper Type

Mrs. Welling is of the aging-flapperish type. She is slightly over 5 feet, but well built. She gives the appearance of being between 35 and 40 years old. Her hair is closely bobbed. In the hospital, she testified, her hair was shaved in order that the scalp wounds inflicted by her assailant might be treated. She exhibited her head to the jurors to show where wounds had been inflicted. She admitted that she had been married, but she and her husband have been separated for eight years. She has a boy 9 years old, she stated.

She Jerked Loose

In his cross examination of Mrs. Welling, Attorney Wilson sought to lay the foundation for his defense of mistaken identity. She said that she was grabbed by her assailant before she had a chance to see him, but declared that she got a lasting impression of him when she jerked loose.

The Footprint

Lieut. Davis told of arresting Jackson on the evening of the next day in a rear room at 231 Third street, northeast. Jackson was taken to No. 5 police station. When he arrived there, Lieut. Davis ordered him to make a clear impression in the snow on the ground with his shoe. Jackson did this. Lieut. Davis testified that he then knew that Jackson was the man from his memory of the imprint made by the shoes of the assailant of Mrs. Welling in the Capitol grounds.

Attorney Wilson objected to the admission of this statement of the police lieutenant, but Justice Hoehling overruled his objections. Mr. Wilson noted an exception.

Jackson admitted to Detective O'Day that he had committed the assault, Lieut. Davis said, but asked that on more questions be asked him that night.

Confession

On February 21, Jackson made a confession, Lieut. Davis stated, and led him over the scenes, describing in minute detail his movements leading to the assault. He also showed thrown a brick, with which he is said the police officers where he had to have struck Mrs. Welling, and a small pocketbook containing $13 which he had taken from a larger one.

Four Alibi Witnesses

Attorney Wilson will seek to prove by four competent witnesses, he said in his opening statement, that Jackson is not the guilty man. On the night of the alged crime, his witnesses will testify, Jackson was at his rooming place asleep.

The alleged confession, Mr. Wilson declared, was not voluntarily made but was obtained thru "third-degree" methods. He charged in his opening statement that the police beat Jackson, pointed pistols at him and forced the confession. They handcuffed Jackson and took him to the scene of the crime, Mr. Wilson asserted, instead of Jackson leading them.

Moron

Jackson is of the moron type. He is light brown skin and of slim build.

When he was arraigned he sought to enter a plea of guilty, but Justice Hoehling could not accept his plea inasmuch as he is charged with a capital crime. Mr. Wilson was appointed by the court to defend him.

Philip Jackson took the stand in his own defense, Wednesday. Four witnesses, Mrs. Aimee Bailey, aged 60, her daughter, Mrs. Estelle Courtney, 321 Third street, northeast, her husband, George, and Michael J. Bailey, a bedmate of Jackson, swore that he was home the night of the crime shortly after nine o'clock and did not leave the room until seven o'clock the next morning.

Police deny that Jackson had been beaten, abused and threatened with violence or promised immunity in order that they might obtain a written confession.

Lynchings-1927
Rape: Hlleged Attacks by Negroes.

Florida.

2551

PENSACOLA, FLA. News

JAN 7 1927

Girl Claims Attacked By Young Negro

Charges of attempted criminal assault were made against John Francis Johnson, 17-year-old Goulding negro, by parents of a white girl of 14 years when he is alleged to have attacked her in the woods near Brentwood last Tuesday evening, at a hearing before Judge Dan A. Nee yesterday afternoon.

The negro denied that he had attempted to harm the little girl but admitted that he had grasped her. According to the child, she was thrown to the ground and choked by the negro. Johnson was held over to the court of record on a statutory charge under bond of $1,000 and is now in county jail.

The negro was captured by Vernon Bowman after he had heard the child's screams when attacked on her way home from school shortly before dark. With a group of other men he took chase and when a shotgun was fired the negro stopped.

Tippins had beaten them there and placed a squad of deputies at vantage points inside the enclosure. The sheriff assured the mob's leader that the negro had not been captured, and ordered them to disperse.

He instructed his deputies to shoot to kill if an attempt was made to enter the jail grounds, and hearing this, the crowd fell back.

9-17-27

During the afternoon and early evening, groups of armed men patrolled the city in search of the negro, while some searched dwellings in the negro quarter, others guarded the highways and railroads in an effort to prevent his escape. Automobiles leaving the city on every road were searched.

The attack victim, who is the mother of three children, told officers that her assailant forced his way into the house while she was alone this morning. She said he wore overalls and appeared to be about 30 years of age. Her condition was reported by physicians tonight to be critical.

ATTEMPTS OF MOB TO STORM FLORIDA JAIL ARE BLOCKED

Fort Myers, Fla., September 16.—(AP)—The entire police force was called out tonight to quell a disturbance growing out of the unsuccessful efforts of a mob to storm the Lee county jail in search of a negro who today attacked a 50-year-old white woman in her home on the outskirts of the city.

9-17-27

At 12 o'clock everything was quiet and there seemed no indication of further trouble.

The negro, J. A. Jenkins, was identified this afternoon by the woman through a picture.

MOB TRIES RUSH ON FLORIDA JAIL

Fort Myers Sheriff Orders Deputies To Shoot and Crowd Disbands

FT. MYERS, FLA., Sept. 16.—(AP)—The entire police force was called out tonight to quell a disturbance growing out of the unsuccessful efforts of a mob to storm the Lee county jail in search of a negro who today attacked a 50 year old white woman in her home on the outskirts of the city.

Later the besiegers ranks were thinned by the threats of officers to use their firearms, and although scattered groups lingered in the vicinity, the authorities said the situation was under control.

The mob, composed of approximately 100 men, most of them heavily armed, formed early tonight after it had been reported that the negro had been arrested and placed in the county jail.

Marching a few blocks to the courthouse yard, they demanded entrance to the jail but found that Sheriff Lee

Lynchings-1927

Georgia.

Rape: Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

2547

White Man Sought In Attack on Girl

PUTNEY, Ga., April 8.—Armed posses Wednesday were out seeking an unidentified white man, presumably from Macon, who Tuesday afternoon made an attack on the 16-year-old daughter of a prominent Dooly County farmer.

The attack was made as the girl was walking along a little traveled road about half a mile from this city.

MONTICELLO NEGRO, WANTED FOR ATTACK ON WOMAN, JAILED

Macon, Ga., October 8.—(AP)—George Clark, negro, wanted in connection with an assault upon the aged wife of a dairyman in Jasper county, Wednesday night, was lodged in the Bibb county jail here at 1 o'clock this (Saturday) morning. Sheriff Will Persons, of Jasper county, said that he located the negro about eight miles from Monticello, Ga. The woman who was assaulted sustained a fractured skull.

Because of the intense feeling in Jasper county the negro was quietly brought here after his capture at 9:30 o'clock tonight.

Clark entered Barney Key's home late this afternoon and asked for something to eat. Key, also a negro, who had been keeping an eye open for the fugitive for the county officers, had the negro go into the cellar of his home for protection, and then locked him in and sent his son for the sheriff.

The victim of the attack, who has been in a critical condition, has made improvement, according to doctors.

Jasper Posse Seeks Negro After Attack On Dairyman's Wife

Monticello, Ga., October 5.—(AP)—Armed posses are scouring Jasper county tonight searching for George Clark, negro, who is being hunted for attacking and brutally beating the wife of a prominent dairyman living near here. The attack occurred late this afternoon.

The victim of the attack is suffering from a fractured skull and other injuries suffered at the hands of the negro and little hope is held out for her recovery.

According to officers, the negro has been working in this section for about two months and was employed by the dairyman last Monday. He is about 30 years old and has a dark gingerbread complexion. The negro weighs about 170 pounds and is about 5 feet 7 inches tall. He was wearing overalls, a blue shirt and a straw hat at the time he left.

The woman, who remained conscious during the assault and after she had been beaten over the head with a plow handle, told of her treatment by the negro to a doctor who was summoned by her nephew, who discovered her shortly after the attack.

Continued on Page 8, Column 5

Negro Who Captured

:: :: HELD ATTACKER OF JASPER WOMAN :: ::

Fugitive Is Honored

Monticello, Ga., October 8.—(AP)—An old negro sat in high places today, heard his white neighbors extol him for exemplary citizenship and compliment him for dominating a law-and-order meeting called to turn away possible violence from one of his race.

Burney Key, this town's current hero, also basks in sudden comparative wealth, for they told him today he was to get $500 reward for the capture of George Clark, negro, alleged to have criminally assaulted a local dairyman's wife.

A. S. Thurmond, formerly judge of the city court of Monticello, presided at the mass meeting. The balcony of the courtroom was filled with negroes and the lower floor with white people. There was standing room only in all of the courthouse.

Earlier in the morning a deputation of citizens had gone out to Key's home, seven miles from town, to bring him in. He came, arrayed in his best, a pair of blue-checked breeches, a cotton khaki shirt and a brown hat. Burney was led into the courtroom and given the seat of honor. From his awesome pinnacle, the highest place of honor in the county, he watched the proceedings and when Judge Thurmond called upon him to speak he arose without hesitation, and in a straightforward, simple way, with rather good language, he told the story of the capture.

He first spied Clark in a cemetery, rubbing graveyard dust on his shoes, said Key. Negroes almost know, he said, that this is certain defeat for bloodhounds. Late Friday, while near his home, Key saw Clark cutting across the rows of a near-by cotton field, and whistled him to a stop. Clark asked food and protection—which Key said he readily gave, because he knew of Clark's crime.

Burney's "protection" was in a cellar, to which he held the key, and in front of which he sat, with a shotgun on his knees, until his son brought Sheriff Persons to the scene. A search for Clark has been under way for some time, but when a crowd gathered at Key's house Clark was safe with the sheriff on the way to Macon jail.

Burney told the crowd that he didn't deserve "all this 'splay'," and that he had only done his duty. He was lauded by W. A. Lane, Pierce Stone, R. L. Oxford and Dr. G. W. M. Murrell.

Judge Thurmond read the section of the constitution defining a citizen's duty, and praised Burney as a good citizen. When he put the motion to express the sentiment of the crowd against lynching, the body rose en masse.

Tinker, his son-in-law, and Skinner Green, a brother-in-law of Tinker, still were being held in the Jefferson county jail at Birmingham in connection with the slaying.

Mrs. David Treece, Mrs. Jim Tinker and Mrs. Skinner Green, held here several days for questioning, were released yesterday.

The elder Treece told officers he found his wife near their home with her head badly beaten and her clothes partially burned from her body. Before she died Treece told officers she told him that a negro attacked her and set fire to her clothes.

Negro Believed Hired to Kill Alabama Woman

Jasper, Ala., September 21.—(AP)—Following announcement in Montgomery last night that Attorney General Charlie C. McCall had been investigating the slaying at Dora last week of Mrs. Mary Treece, 47, Walker county officials redoubled their efforts to find the assailant of the fatally injured woman, beating her with a rock and then set fire to her clothing.

Attorney General McCall said last night that he believed a negro had been hired to kill the woman. Officers here have been working on the theory that an assailant other than the negro committed the crime.

Questioning of seven relatives of Mrs. Treece, however, failed to throw any light on the slaying.

Lee Treece, the woman's husband; David Treece, the latter's son: Jim

NEGRO TO FACE TRIAL SOON IN ASSAULT CASE

Forsyth, Ga., September 27.—(AP)—The trial of Roy Pryor, negro, 24-year-old escaped Monroe county convict, who was brought back here last night after making an assault on a 60-year-old woman near Dames Ferry yesterday afternoon, will be set tomorrow. This announcement was made by Sheriff L. C. Bittick tonight after he had conferred with Superior Court Judge Ogden Persons, who is now holding court in Mc Donough.

Citizens of Dames Ferry called on Sheriff Bittick this morning, and assured him that there would be no violence done the negro. The committee asked only that he be given a speedy trial. The Sheriff immediately got in touch with the judge, and he said he would come here especially to set the date.

Pryor made the attack on the woman while she was in a pea patch. A citizens' posse caught him and took him back to face his victim. He then confessed. A detailed confession was made to Sheriff Bittick this morning.

The woman's condition was pronounced not critical this afternoon.

Continued on Page 4, Column 5

ESCAPED NEGRO ATTACKS MONROE WOMAN, 60; JAILED

Forsyth, Ga., September 26.—(AP)—Roy Troy, 24, escaped negro convict of Monroe county was lodged in jail again tonight after he had confessed to making an attack on a 60-year-old white woman near Dames Ferry.

He was picked up by one of several searching parties near Rivoli. He was taken back to Dames Ferry and identified by the attacked woman, after which he admitted making the assault.

The negro escaped from the Monroe county chaingang last Friday, where he was serving a sentence for being a "peeping Tom."

AMERICAN

Hattiesburg, Miss

OCT 11 1927

LEARNING FROM UNCLE BURNEY

Edmund Burke's famous statement that you can not indict a whole nation, is equally true of a race. Loose-tongued spellbinders and prejudice-blinded "nigger haters" condemn the entire negro race to eternal damnation every time a white woman is attacked. Given a free hand these incendiarists can work up a mob to the point of breaking into a jail or burning a suspect without the semblance of a trial, simply through appealing to race prejudice. Yet the fact remains that the vast majority of negroes are no more responsible for the crime of one miscreant whose skin happens to be black, than the vast majority of white people are responsible for the evil deeds of some fiend whose skin happens to be white.

A classic illustration of this point comes from Monticello, Georgia, where an aged negro, Burney Key by name, completely dominated a law and order meeting which was called to prevent mob violence to a member of his race. The wife of a local dairyman was criminally attacked. Clark, the alleged assailant, for whom a reward was offered, was seen in a cemetery rubbing graveyard dust on his shoes, in an effort to defeat the bloodhounds. A little while later the fugitive approached Uncle Burney and asked him for food and protection. The result was that he found himself locked up in an outhouse with Uncle Burney remaining on guard outside with a gun until another member of his family could notify the officers to come for their prisoner.

The crowd wanted to lynch the captured negro but after Uncle Burney had spoken at the mass meeting and appealed to the "white folks" to be as fair as he had been, the assembly went on record as opposing mob action and cheered the aged negro to the echo for his courage and sense of duty.

Uncle Burney did more for the cause of interracial good will than he perhaps knew. He furnishes that good negroes have no fresh proof of the fact that sympathy for criminals among their own people. Once they could be assured that there would be no lynching or burning, more negroes would be disposed to surrender fugitives from justice. Both Uncle Burney and his white folks deserve hearty commendation.

N. Y. WORLD

OCT 9 1927

NEGRO MADE HERO IN ASSAULT CASE

Georgians Reward Man Who Captured Black Who Had Attacked White Woman

LAW TO TAKE ITS COURSE

Fugitive Had Rubbed "Graveyard Dust" on Shoes

Special Despatch to The World

MONTICELLO, Ga., Oct. 8.—Burney Key, Negro, sat on the bench of the Jasper County Superior Court to-day. In blue-checked breeches and cotton khaki shirt, his old brown hat in his twisted, farmer's hands, he looked down upon white faces and heard himself called a hero.

The white citizens of Monticello were acclaiming him as the captor of George Clark, also a Negro, who had assaulted the wife of a white dairyman and were pledging themselves to let the law have its way with the prisoner. Above in the gallery were members of Key's own race, watching the white folks praise one of their own.

He heard his bravery extolled, he learned that he would receive $500 from the Governor and $250 from Jasper County for his work and he heard the crowd calling for him to speak. But he was not overwhelmed. In simple, straightforward words he told the story of the capture.

"Only Done My Duty"

"I don't deserve all this 'splay. I only done my duty," he concluded.

Jasper County approves of duty. A deputation of its leading citizens went out to Key's little farm seven miles from town to escort the hero to the law and order meeting in his honor. Former Judge A. S. Thurmond himself presided and hey all listened well while the old Negro told his story.

He knew about Clark and his misdeed, Key said. He also knew that the officers were "after" Clark. Some one, he pointed out, had told him that Clark was seen in a cemetery two hours after the crime, rubbing "graveyard dust" on his shoes.

The Negroes have a superstition that if one rubs "graveyard dust" on his shoes the dreaded bloodhouns cannot track him.

Late Friay afternoon, Key averred, he saw Clark cutting across his cotton field and whistled to him. Clark approached and said that he wanted food and protection.

"What do you want protection for?" Key queried.

"I hit that lady," he quoted Clark as saying.

"What lady?" Key asked.

The name of the victim was forthcoming from Clark. Key already knew the woman's name, but he was intent upon "drawing out" Clark.

"What did you hit her for?"

"Her husband was whipping me and she came up with a pistol and I hit her and ran." (The victim was alone at the time and her husband was attending a dairy show at Madison, evidence shows.)

Key said he agreed to protect Clark and told him to go into the basement of an abandoned store adjoining his (Key's) home. When Clark entered, Key locked the door and went into his home and got his gun. He sat near the door with the gun on his lap and told his boy to go for the Sheriff.

The son summoned a white neighbor and together they brought the Sheriff and his son to the hiding place of Clark. Shortly after Clark had been turned over to the Sheriff, word of the capture spread and a mob formed, intent upon a lynching. However, the prisoner had been taken to Macon for incarceration.

HERALD
Sanford, Fla.
OCT 11 1927

He Helped To Enforce The Law

The little town of Monticello, Georgia, several days ago took occasion to honor Burney Key, an old negro of many years' residence. At a mass meeting of the citizens at the court house, Key was placed in the judge's chair while his white neighbors extolled him for his exemplary citizenship. It was a big occasion and the tribute paid to the negro was in recognition of a very praiseworthy act. The aged negro had captured and turned over to authorities a member of his own race sought in connection with an attack upon a white woman.

While posses scored the woods for the fiend, Burney Key went about the same task in his own way. He knew the accused and knew his habits. He was certain he knew where to locate his man and he set out to get him. The aged negro saw George Clark, the man he sought, cutting across the rows of a nearby cotton field and he whistled for him to stop. Clark asked Key for food and protection which Key said he readily offered.

The protection, however, which Key gave Clark was in his cellar, to which he held the key, and in front of which he sat with his gun until the sheriff arrived in response to a summons which Key had sent by a friend. The negro Clark was immediately whisked away and Key was taken to town where the white citizens hastened to express their appreciation of the deed.

Through all the praises showered upon him, Key sat at his high place in the court room protesting that he did not deserve all the words of commendation. But we believe he did. Burney Key is a credit to his race. He has set an example which, if followed closely, would aid materially in checking the outrage which he would not permit Clark to perpetrate and "get away with it." Not only has the negro reflected credit upon himself but he has given white citizens something to think about.

If all of us were as anxious to see the law enforced as was Burney Key we would have fewer violations. We have too many people closing one eye and winking the other at flagrant violations. Frequently the best laws are violated the most because there is only a half-hearted sentiment back of them. The country needs more Burney Keys white and black.

Lynchings- 1927

Illinois.

2546

Rape: Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

A morning paper a few days ago gave a ringing alarm. A young woman of Caucasian persuasion was missing! This alarm was sounded by her escort. He informed the police that his [illegible] ran out of gas on a country road. Before he left his lady to go get gasoline, he reported that three 'colored men' had stopped and told him they would return with the gas. He could not wait and locked his car and left the lady alone in the car. When he returned the locked car and lady were gone.

Naturally both car and lady had been abducted by the three dark men. What could be more simple! The hunt was then on for the three dark men in dilapidated car.

Then came the evening paper with a new story. The demure lady had a key to the car. She had tired of waiting and had driven off. She was home with her husband. The car was in front of the door. Her irate husband was looking for the gay Lothario who owned the car. Thus another hue and cry died aborning. The search for the "black brutes" was off.

Now this happened in the North!

Picture yourself what might have happened in the good old state of Mississippi if such an alarm was sent forth to the countryside.

Lynchings 1927

Rape: Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

Kansas.

2543

HATS OFF TO COFFEYVILLE

On March 17, past, newsboys, throughout the country, handed out to eager purchasers, newspapers telling of a race riot, resulting from an attempted lynching and an attack on the Negro settlement in Coffeyville, Kansas. The news releases of the never none too friendly press associations, stated that the disturbance was the result of the alleged attack of three unidentified negroes, on two white girls. It also stated that all of the many negroes arrested were released because nothing could be proven on any of them. This evidently infuriated the white hoodlum element of Coffeyville, who being bloodthirsty, immediately called for the blood of some black man, innocent or guilty it made no difference to them. All mobs are the same unreasoning animal pack.

The rest is history, the whites as usual, took the law in their own hands, stormed the jail seeking victims; repulsed at the jail, they set out for the colored settlement, ostensibly to kill, plunder and burn, but the colored Americans of Coffeyville, were men, good, strong, true men who were determined that they would defend their homes to the last man. They were ready for the rapers of justice and what they did and how well they stood is also history. Kansas, border state, has a proud record of tolerance, being the scene of the operations of the immortal John Brown, and the governor immediately called out troops and order was restored.

Normal conditions slowly returned but Negro Coffeyville was not satisfied and said so. They raised a fund for the investigation of the entire affair. Today, two months, 13 days after the disgraceful affair, the Associated Press despatches reluctantly give out the information that a white man has been arrested in Coffeyville, charged with the crime a colored man was supposed to have committed. The despatches also state that one of the girls, who was supposed to have been assaulted, has also been arrested as the accessory of the white man, accused of the crime.

Same old story, guilty whites hide their dirty crimes behind the ever ready cry of "a Negro did it," many an innocent man, woman and child have suffered death, and worse because of such cases.

Coffeyville, black Coffeyville has shown the way to all America. These men not only defended their homes but cleared the name of the often falsely accused race of its undeserved stain. Hats off to the colored Americans of Coffeyville.

THE COFFEYVILLE CRIMINAL ASSAULT ON HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS

On March 17th, two white high school girls of Coffeyville, Kansas, made an outcry that they had been assaulted by three Negroes. As a result of their charges a Negro was arrested on suspicion and a white mob immediately got busy and assaulted the jail in an attempt to lynch the suspect. The authorities resisted the mob and prevented the lynching of the Negro at the cost of four men wounded.

Now comes one of the girls assaulted who swears that the rapists were white and identifies a motor car salesman as one of the assailants.

The Coffeyville incident teaches that the declaration of girls or women charging Negroes with assault should not be accepted without careful investigation.

It has frequently happened elsewhere as in Coffeysville that charges against Negroes are made to shield white men. Had the mob secured the Negro and lynched him the real criminals would never have been uncovered and the Negro charged would have gone to his death innocent of the crime but with the black record of infamy written against him.

AN INTERESTING CONFESSION

Further investigation into the cause of a race riot, which almost resulted in a lynching of two or three Negroes out in Kansas a few weeks ago, has resulted in Miss Margaret Akers, a high school girl, confessing that the story she told alleging that she and her friend, a Miss Mooney, had been attacked by three Negroes, was a hoax. Miss Akers declares that she was told to tell the story on the Negroes after she had been assaulted by a white man, Ira Kennedy, a motor car salesman. This is an interesting story now, because the facts are being brought to light. The best thing to be done now is for the state of Kansas to punish not only Kennedy, but the Mooney girl and her mother, who are charged with being accessories before the fact. It was their scheme that provided an opportunity for Kennedy to attack this girl, and it was their lying lips that told her to lay the charge to Negroes. They as well as Kennedy are too dangerous to be at large.

It was by sheer accident that three or more Negroes were not lynched and a race riot during which scores of lives might have been lost, as well as thousands of dollars worth of property destroyed.

Many a lover or sweetheart have hidden their crimes at the end of the lynchers rope or the mob's torch simply because they have found it easy to throw suspicion and fasten crime on Negroes.

IRA KENNEDY IS FREED

INDEPENDENCE, KAS., July 19.—(AP)—Ira Kennedy, motor car salesman, charged with assaulting Miss Margaret Akers, Coffeyville, Kas., high school girl, on the night of March 17, was acquitted by a jury in district court here tonight.

Miss Julia Mooney, charged with being accessory before the fact was freed by Judge Ayres after testimony was completed.

The story of Miss Mooney and Miss Akers that they had been assaulted by negroes caused a race riot at Coffeyville, in which four persons were wounded. Three negroes were arrested, and while one was in custody there, a mob formed and stormed the jail.

FREE GIRL IN ASSAULT ORGY AND COFFEYVILLE RACE RIOT

White Salesman Refused Demurrer. Is Positively Identified As Girl's Attacker

PLOT ON NEGROES TOLD

Girls and Parents Stuck by Story Involving Colored Persons Though They Knew Them Innocent

(Special to The St. Louis Argus)

INDEPENDENCE, Kans., July 20.—BULLETIN—Julia Mooney, 19-year-old former Coffeyville high school student, (white) was freed of a charge of being accessory before the fact in the alleged attack on Margaret Akers, 17 years old, (white) her school companion, March 17 and blaming the deed upon colored Americans resulting in a Race riot March 18, resulting in the injury of many Race citizens and thousands of dollars in damage to their property.

Ira Kennedy, 36-year-old married white shoe salesman, sought a demmurrer to evidence against him charging him with committing the attack, but was over ruled.

Charges against the Mooney girl were dismissed by Judge A. T. Ayres, who sustained the motion of the defense. The court held the evidence was insufficient to warrant submission to the jury.

INDEPENDENCE, Kans., July 20.—The hand of legal destiny for Ira Kennedy and Julia Mooney, whites, being tried for the false accusation of colored citizens of an assault upon a young white high school companion of the latter resulting in a race riot in Coffeyville, moved swiftly Monday. The pair will be held for the jury and colored Americans cleared of one great wrong done them by unscrupulous whites seemed certain.

Jury Impannelled.

The jury was impanelled in a few hours, which was surprising owing to the nature of the case. Judge A. T. Ayers sat in the case due to disabilities of Judge Hildren, original judge. The courtroom was crowded to the door when the case opened and all persons under 18 years of age were barred. Witnesses in the case numbering 23 were sworn in.

Girl On Stand.

Margaret Akers, alleged victim of the assault, was the state's star witness. Walter Keith, special assistant attorney questioned her.

After telling of the incidents leading up to the attack including her visit to a show with the Mooney girl the night of the attack and going to her home to spend the night. She told of arriving at the house and feeling a bit uneasy as she retired.

Awakened By Scream.

Coming to the attack, Margaret said she was awakened by Julia's scream and by a man who on top of her with his knees on her chest, one hand on her neck and fingers of his other hand crammed down her throat.

"What did you do?" asked Mr. Keith.

Fought Her Assailant.

"I began to fight him."

"Then what did you do?"

"I kept on fighting him. I screamed and grabbed Julia's arm, but she immediately left the bed. I continued to fight, I fought the man off of me to keep him from killing me and from accomplishing his purpose. I bit his fingers and scratched his face. Every time he would put his fingers in my throat I would bite them."

"Did he make any threat?"

'Yes, he told' me if I didn't keep still he would kill me. I kept kind of still, but when I had a chance I screamed. He said several degrading things to me."

Here the witness was silent for a time as she was asked to tell what he assailant said, then finally she said he told her he had come after sexual intercourse with her, and she kept fighting him, she said.

Finally Gives In.

The witness then reluctantly told of her assailant's inability to loosen the string that held her pajamas. She finally gave in, removing the garment, when her assailant had intercourse with her, she said.

Answering a question as to the identity of her assailant, the Aker girl replied without hesitation, "It was Ira Kennedy." Continuing with her narration of events, Miss Akers told of being left so weak that she had to be lifted from the bed by one of the three men and carried into the living room.

Makes Demand For Money.

The Akers girl said her assailant also wanted to know, following the assault if she had any money and told of the "slim" man being directed by her to her coat hanging on the closet door where he obtained 45 cents and a compact. She also said that when questioned for money she told her assailant if there was any money she thought it was coming to her for what she had endured.

Threatened With Death

The witness also related that her assailant threatened to kill her if he should tell anyone about the assault. She said that Kennedy threatened her twice before they left the bed and once afterward as he was leaving the house.

The witness said Julia said they would stay there the rest of the night. The Akers girl said she replied that she would go to Hodshires.

Go To Hodshire Home

However, they went to the door and Mrs. Hodshire came to the door, "Julia shouted Negroes," said the Akers girl, "and I knew what was up and followed her up."

"I continued saying they were Negroes," the witness said in answer to questions, "but I knew that Kennedy was one of them."

Cross Examination Begins.

The Akers girl was called and cross examination by Attorney Williams proceeded.

The witness said she did not know what time it was that she awakened to find her assailant upon her and Julia screaming. Neither could she fix the position of the moon in the sky at that time.

"Shut up or I'll kill you!" the witness told the court and jury in cross examinatnon, was the first thing her assailant said to her.

Asked as to what was going on in the other room after Julia had left the bed, the Akers girl said she could see what was going betwen herself and Kennedy, but couldn't see them in the other room, adding she was attending to her own business at that time.

Margaret estimated the time of the absence of Julia in the other room with the other two men at a half hour.

Knew It was Kennedy

"You knew it was Kennedy before he left the room?"

"Yes, I knew Kennedy then and had more positive assurance it was he when I saw him later."

Mrs. Akers To Stand.

Mrs. C. S. Akers, mother of Margaret was next witness.

The witness told of Margaret and Julia coming to their home March 24, a week after the assault. She said Mrs. Mooney said emphatically to Margaret, "You must stick to the Negro theory."

Lynchings-1927 I Kansas. 2545

Rape: Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

Coffeyville Enmasse Mobs Innocent Colored Men

The Southern Kansas couhtry-side turned out to make a Roman holiday of the lynching of three colored men on last Friday, who were later released for want of evidence, as it is now charged that three white youths assaulted the little white girls.

Following an attack upon a Caucasian girl in Coffeyville, Kansas, "irate citizens" massed for an attack upon the black citizens of that city. Their ardor for blood and battle was cooled only when their intended prey turned hunter and three of their number were wounded. A hasty checkup by police was so convincing of the innocence of the three men accused of the attack that all have been released from custody. The outrageous customs of the Bourbon South yet remain unchecked and, for the greater part unrebuked. A few desultory, perfunctory expressions of sympathy for the victims, a few "milk and water" editorial condemnations and the affair, like others of its ilk, will be forgotten. Strict enforcement of a Federal law against lynching is the only panacea. If the 14th and 15th amendments to the Federal Constitution are worth the paper they are written on, such a law should be passed. Who won the Civil War anyhow?

COLORED DEPUTY BROUGHT WHITE KANSAS MOBBISTS TO A STOP

Coffeyville, Kan., March 28, 1927—Robert Liggins, merchant and deputy sheriff was the hero in the recent race riot here.

When the mob og 60 whites reached the edge of the colored section they were met by Liggins with a revolver in his hands. He threatened to drill Colored men arrested charged with assaulting the white girls have all been freed and an investigation of the bath tub in the girls' home as well as their bed and night gowns showed the presence of a greasy black substance like burnt cork which indicates that the assailants blacked their faces for the assault.

—Editor's 55th Ann. Ed.—

REMEMBER COFFEYVILLE WHEN RACE IS ACCUSED

We give here the final admissions as to the truth with regard to what had happened when there came near being a lynching in Coffeyville, Kansas, last March, averted by the plain intent of the race to fight if the mob entered the Colored section. Keep this in mind when your race is accused.

The Mooney girl and her chum told a story about like this: They returned from a movie to an untenanted house owned by the Mooney girl's father, in which the Mooney girl was occupying a single furnished bedroom on the flimsy excuse that the house was nearer the high school than her home. About midnight they were aroused by three "Negroes" two of whom dragged the Akers girl from the bed and assaulted her alternately, while one assaulted the Mooney girl.

That was the story that started the riot and nearly resulted in the lynching of Carter Smith, a barber, who was taken into custody and hidden in the cupola of the jail while the bloodthirsty mob searched halls and cells fruitlessly. After Smith's life was out of danger, the girls denied he was one of the attackers.

Detectives, however, claim this is the true story of the double assault: Three white men were admitted to the house by the Mooney girl who had bargained to have three girls there for them, but failed when one girl's mother objected to her staying all night with Julia. Only one man assaulted the Akers girl, who is believed to have been "in the dark" on the arrangements. After the five had held their "party" for more than an hour, they held a conference and decided to invent a story of alarm to hide any suspicion of their wild party. The tale was so clumsily put together and the evidences to the contrary so strong, that the suspicion and finally the conviction grew among whites and blacks as well that Colored were not concerned.

Ira Kennedy, 30, an automobile salesman, has been jailed, charged with assault on the Akers girl. He is married, has two children, and is expecting the stork shortly. His bond was fixed at $20.000.

TRUTH GETS AN INNING

Once in a long while the cruel calculations of propaganda fail to cover the truth, and it becomes known that the Negro in America is accused of crime sometimes to provide an escape for whites who are the real culprits. Coffeyville's trial of the white men arrested for rape after it had believed Negroes to be guilty, must be a shock to those who think crime and innocence are determined by the color of the skin.

The remarkable thing about this disclosure of facts, is the publicity it is getting in the daily press. There have been other cases when we have been called evil-doers, Elaine, Arkansas, was one of them, but seldom has the truth caught up with the lie with the speed it has in Coffeyville. All over the South, we Negroes have known that many a man has died, even been lynched as a bad Negro, when his only offense was that he counted the virtue of the woman of his family worth dying for. Many a "race riot" has broken out when Negroes would not keep quiet while they were stripped of their earnings. Many a so-called Negro desperado has as his only offense that he owned something that a white man wanted, and it was simpler and quicker to kill him and libel him than it was to negotiate with him and buy him out. In short, the reputation of Negroes has been just what those who maltreat him, have wanted it to be. But now comes Coffeyville and its disclosures that in the one case at least, we are blameless.

There ought to be doubt now in the minds of many who used to be sure that we were guilty whenever charged. They have not seen the significance of white men disguised with blackened faces, caught committing crimes in St. Louis and elsewhere. But they cannot misunderstand Coffeyville where the complaining witness, in a court of record admits she did not think charging Negroes with raping her was serious, and that she did it because to tell the truth was a matter of life and death with her. To such a low level has American conscience fallen in its judgment of what duty whites owe Negroes, that accusing us of being rapists, and inciting riots thereby, is the subterfuge which easily comes to the mind of a 17-year-old girl. How much more surely will the cold, calculating hatred of our avowed enemies work to destroy our good name, and incite our destruction!

EXPOSES PLAN TO SAVE SELVES FROM DISGRACE

Says Fear And Girl Companion's Influence Prevented Her From Telling Truth About Assault By Three White Friends

INDEPENDENCE, Kas., June 22.—(Special)—Ira Kennedy and Julia Mooney, charged with being a principal and an accessory in an attack upon Margaret Akers in Coffeyville, Kas., the night of March 17, Wednesday were bound over by C. L. Jukes, justice of the peace to the district court for trial. The decision followed a preliminary hearing here last week.

Bonds of the two were set at $5,000.

(Special to the St. Louis Argus)

COFFEYVILLE, Kans. June 23.—Colored Americans have been conceded one of the most significant victories over the intrigue of unscrupulous white to incriminate the Negro as the easiest way to clear themselves of vile crime.

From the witness stand in Justice C. L. Jukes' court Saturday afternoon at a preliminary hearing under a two hour grilling Margaret Akers, a 17-year-old white high school girl unfolded the story of her wrongs and a companion, Julia Mooney, 19-year-old high school girl, had engaged in a lewd affair with three white men, and to offset disgrace plotted and blamed the crime upon "Negroes".

Tells of Crime

Conscience stricken she unraveled the sordid details of the offensive deed and positively identified a 30-year old white shoe salesman, Ira Kennedy, the father of three children as one of the men responsible for her disgrace and the accusation of innocent colored citizens, resulting in a race roit in Coffeyville, March 18.

Attend Picture Show

In beginning the sordid tale of the assault, the witness related that she and Julia Mooney had gone to a picture show, getting there just before the first show concluded and staying through the second show.

The Akers girl said they left the show at 11:20 o'clock.

Asked as to what conversation was had on the way home, Margaret said they had talked some about the show. She explained that they were tired and that Julia had expressed a hope that someone would come along in an automobile, adding "I would ride with anybody."

Tried To Push Her On.

The Aker girl said they continued directly to the Mooney home, and that the front door was unlocked and her companion made an effort to push her in first but she would not enter ahead of her friend. She told of going into the Mooney girl's bedroom and of smelling a perculiar odor there and also said that she noticed the portierers over a closet in the room move and became frightened, but was passified by her friend.

Quickly Falls Asleep

Both of the girls, Margaret testified had gone to the bathroom before retiring, but they had not gone together. The witness said in answer to questions that she had fallen asleep immediately after retiring.

In answer to further questions, Margaret said the first she next remembered upon awakening was that a man had his hands on her throat his knees on her chest and was "figthing me."

Julia First to Scream

At the moment of the man's attack the Aker girl testified, Julia screamed. Her first thought had been he Aker girl said, that the intruders were there to rob and that it did not occur to her what their real purpose proved to be.

It was at this point that the witness made her dramatic answers.

Knew Kennedy

"Did any of the silhouetted features of the men in the room remind you of any you had seen or knew before?" questioned defense attorned, Keith.

"Yes," was the Aker girl's reply without hesitation.

"Will you tell the court please of whom they reminded you?"

'Kennedy," replied the witness with equal assurance.

'What was it about this figure with whom you were fighting that led you to believe it was Kennedy?"

Concluded It Was Kennedy

"Well, while fighting with one of the men, the man who attacked me I felt of his figure and how he looked as I could see him in the dark and by his size and build I came to the conclusion it was Mr. Kennedy?"

"Did you have an opportunity to see this man again?

"Yes, sir."

"When was this?"

"As two of the men went out of the back window together, and one man remained to hold me. After they got out of the window the man holding me started to leave and I walked a short distance and when this man turned and loked back I saw him again. I could see his figure silhouetted in the moonlight."

Postive It Was Kennedy

The state's attorney again questioned the witness.

"Coul'd you tell who it was that you saw turn back?

"Yes, sir she answerd.

"Who was it?"

"It was Mr. Kennedy."

"You know it was not Negroes?"

'It was not Negroes."

AKERS' ASSAULT STORY IS TOLD FOR FIRST TIME

Julia Mooney Accused as First to Insist That Attackers Were Negroes

BOUND OVER

INDEPENDENCE, Kans. — Ira Kennedy and Julia Mooney were bound over by $5,000 bond. Ira Kennedy was removed to jail here in default of bond.

Justice C. L. Jukes, presiding in the joint preliminary trial of Ira Kennedy and Julia Mooney, charged with the rape of Margaret Akers, in the Mooney home at 812 West Ninth street the night of March 17, announced at the conclusion of the hearing at 9 o'clock Saturday night that he would render his decision at 10 o'clock Wednesday morning.

The examination had begun [illegible] with the testimony of Miss Akers and had included two sensational developments.

Miss Akers Accuses Kennedy

The first of these came during the examination of Miss Akers, when she positively identified Ira Kennedy as the man who attacked her, the witness the while looking directly at the ac-

is, Wichita detective and investigator Both McCrabb and Davis were call- in the employ of the city in the as-ed by the defense after the state had sault case, furnished some illumination announced it had no witnesses to be when in answer to questions by de-of the preliminary, the defense had fense counsel about his identity, he announced it had not witnesses to be said: sworn and the calling of the sheriff "I am employed by the Burns Detec- and the investigator came as a sur- tive agency of Tulsa. I have been in prise move.

years. Before that, I was an investiga- **Delay in Starting**

tor for the Anti-Saloon league of Kan- The trial was expected to begin at sas, under Mr. Crabbe." 1:30 o'clock, but was delayed owing to the fact that Miss Akers, who was in

ter the arrest of Julia Mooney and Ira Kennedy that "Kennedy could not have been the man who attacked me." The unequivocal declaration of the witness came like a thunderbolt from a clear sky. A bombshell had been thrown into the state's camp, but the officer was not cross examined by the state's attorneys.

Detective on Stand

Also by way of variation in the already colorful court scene, R. W. Dav-

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company of Mayor Harry Lang, Chief Earl Hackney and City Attorney Walter Keith had not arrived at that hour.

The crowd of spectators began filtering into the district court room, where the trial was held, about 12:30 o'clock and by 1:30 standing room was at a premium. Eventually more than forty people were standing at the back and sides of the room, most of whom remained throughout the long session despite the humid condition of the room.

Ordered Youth From Court Room

At 1:55 o'clock Sheriff McCrabb announced it was the court's order that all persons under 16 years old, be excluded from the room and asking that all such persons immediately leave. So far as could be observed none left, though there was a sprinkling of youthful faces in the room.

Seated at the defense side of the table were Julia Mooney, her mother, Mrs. Mooney, Ira Kennedy, Mrs. Ira Kennedy, A. F. Williams, attorney of Wichita, and C. D. Ise, Coffeyville attorney.

On the state's side were Margaret Akers, her mother Mrs. C. E. Akers, County Attorney C. W. Mitchell, City Attorney Walter Keith of Coffeyville, Mayor Harry Lang, Chief Earl Hackney and Assistant County Attorney J. Milton Cook.

Eleven witnesses, all for the state, were sworn in just as the clock struck the hour of 2 o'clock, and Miss Akers immediately took the witness stand for what proved to be a two hour grilling. Attorney Keith began the examination.

Miss Akers Takes Stand

In answer to questions Miss Akers said she had lived in Coffeyville three or four years. She said she had been a student in the Coffeyville high school and was acquainted with Julia Mooney and Ira Kennedy, the two defendants under trial.

Attend Picture Show

In beginning the sordid tale of the assault, the witness related that she and Julia Mooney had gone to a picture show, getting there just before the first show concluded and staying through the second show.

Miss Akers said they left the show at 11:20 o'clock, having ascertained the hour from her brother, who with a lady friend had been seated with the witness and Miss Money during the latter part of the show.

After leaving the theater, Miss Akers said they had thought of going to a drug store to get some refreshments, but observing the drug stores were closed had gone to the American Confectionery on Eighth street, where they purchased some refreshmnts, after which they started home by way of Eighth street.

Julia Wanted to Ride

Asked as to what conversation was had on the way home, Margaret said they had talked some about the show. She explained that they were tired and that Julia had expressed a hope that someone would come along in an automobile, adding "I would ride with anybody."

The witness said she became suspicious at this remark and somewhat apprehensive, lest she had been out with the wrong kind of a girl. However, Margaret said no one picked them up and they continued their way home, turning south at the 800 block to Ninth street, then going directly to the Mooney home.

Margaret said that upon going onto the porch, Julia had stepped back and apparently sought to push Margaret into the house first. Margaret, however, did not go first, she testified, but Julia relented at this point and started in.

Notice Peculiar Odor

Margaret said the door was unlocked. They entered and switched on the lights. At this juncture, Margaret testified she discerned a "peculiar" odor, and declared she had been disturbed by this odor. Julia, she said, in reply to her anxious inquiry as to its source, had suggested it was possibly a cat.

Saw Portiers Move

Margaret said she entered the bedroom located in the southwest corner of the house. Julia left the room ostensibly to get some bedclothing. During Julia's absence, she detected a movement of some portierres that curtained a closet that had egress to another room also. The movement was about where a person's hand would extend were he standing, she estimated.

Speaking to Julia about the moving of the portierres, Margaret said Julia had again suggested the cat theory. Margaret here explained that all of her life she had been apprehensive of noises and disturbances and for that reason did not press the inquiry further.

Questions Location of Closet

A good deal of questioning took place with regard to the location of the closet with the portierres with regards to other parts of the house, apparently designed by the defense to determine whether it would have been possible for the supposed intruders to concal themselves so as not to have been seen by Julia when she went for bedclothes.

Quickly Falls Asleep

Both of the girls, Margaret testified had gone to the bathroom before retiring, but they had not gone together. The witness said in answer to questions that she had fallen asleep immediately after retiring.

Raised a Window

However, the witness qualified this statement by explaining she had also observed before retiring that the room was stuffy and that Julia at her request, had raised a window at the head of their bed.

In answer to further questions, Margaret said the first she next remembered upon awakening was that a man had his hands on her throat, his knees on her chest and was "fighting me."

Julia First to Scream

At the momcnt of the man's attack, Margaret testified, Julia screamed. Her first thought had been, Miss Akers, said, that the intruders were there to rob, and that it did not occur to her what their real purpose proved to be.

It was at this point that the witness made her dramatic answers to Keith.

"Did any of the silhouetted features of the men in the room, remind you of any you had seen or knew before?" questioned Mr. Keith.

"Yes," was Miss Akers reply without hesitation.

"Will you tell the court please of whom they reminded you?"

"Mr. Kennedy," replied the witness with equal assurance.

"What was it about this figure with whom you were fighting that led you to believe it was Kennedy?"

Concluded it Was Kennedy

"Well, while fighting with one of the men, the man who attacked me, I felt of his figure and how he looked as I could see him in the dark and by his size and build I came to the conclusion it was Mr. Kennedy."

"Did you have an opportunity to see this man again?"

"Yes, sir."

"When was this?"

"As two of the men went out of the back window together, and one man remained to hold me. After they got out of the window the man holding me started to leave and I walked a short distance and when this man turned and looked back I saw him again. I could see his figure silhouetted in the moonlight."

Positive It Was Kennedy

The state's attorney again questioned the witness.

"Could you tell who it was that you saw turn back?"

"Yes, sir," she answered.

"Who was it?"

"It was Mr. Kennedy."

"You know it was not Negroes?"

"It was not Negroes."

In answer to another question, Margaret said it was the "short one" who held her while the two went out of the window.

"Well, after we had locked the window in the bathroom, Julia mentioned what a disgrace it was to have had Negroes attack them in their house."

Julia Cried "Negroes"

The witness added that Julia had also commented on the "horrible mess" and suggested they remain in the house and not raise an alarm until morning. The witness said she wanted to tell the Hodshires about it and said it was Julia who first cried out "Negroes" when they went to the Hodshire home.

"This led me to believe Julia was trying to doublecross me," the witness testified.

Following this Margaret described their admission to the Hodshire home, going over much of the same ground already covered in published stories of the case.

Returning in her testimony to the assault Margaret said in answer to questions that when she was first aroused by the man at her throat, Julia was at her side. She said she instinctively grabbed Julia's arm in what she apparently interpreted their common combat. However, Margaret said Julia as she was taken from the bed by the other two men, did not appear to try to continue the hold, but instead let her arm slip out from Margaret's grasp.

"I believe had Julia made an effort at this time we could have stayed together longer," Margaret explained.

She said in answer to other questions that she could hear "scuffling" in the room where the men had taken Julia.

"They finished and Julia and one of the men returned to the head of my bed," Margaret went on. "I reached up and grasped her hand. She did not return the grasp. What shall I do, give in?' I asked Julia. 'Why certainly,' she said, as if thoroughly disgusted with my question."

Third Man Holds Her

Margaret also testified that while her assailant was still fighting her, the third man came and stood by the bed and held her hand. She admitted getting a good look at his profile between herself and a window, but refused to give her opinion as to his identity.

Afraid to Tell the Truth

In answer to all of the questions asked by state or defense when the latter was cross examining her, Margaret gave as her reason for concealing the fact that she knew it was Kennedy who attacked her that she was afraid her assailants would come back and kill her so she could not testify against them.

A great deal of time was consumed in the narration by the witness of events in the Hodshire home, and later the Akers' home, where the two girls were taken March 24. She declared that Mrs. Mooney had coaxed her to "stay by the Negro theory". Margaret said that Mrs. Mooney suggested the officers would probably do something about it if she changed her story. All of her testimony concerning events subsequent to the assault carried the note of fear for her life.

It was brought out in Margaret's testimony that when the two girls broached the idea in the Akers' home the afternoon of March 17, of their staying alone in the Mooney home that night, Mrs. Akers had frowned on the idea and asked that they stay in the Akers home. However, Julia, it was testified by Margaret, had said she did not want to wear her welcome out and that they would be all right in the Mooney house.

Knew Kennedy Well

Margaret in answer to other questions said the Kennedys had lived in the Mooney house for several months, that she had met Kennedy and that he had frequently taken her and Julia to school or home from school in an automobile.

In another part of her testimony Margaret said she detected a gun in the right outside coat pocket of Kennedy as he was attacking her.

Asked whether her assailant had accomplished his purpose, Margaret testified that he had.

Had Stayed at Home Before

On cross examination Mr. Williams for the defense developed an admission from Margaret that she had stayed with Julia in the Mooney home the Tuesday night preceding the assault on Thursday night. Also that the idea of their staying together Thursday night had been planned while enroute to and from school.

Mr. Williams endeavored to reveal by a line of questioning that much of Margaret's now apparently definite knowledge concerning the assault, the identity of her assailant and the like had been developed by the coaxing of the investigator and others. However, beyond admitting she had developed some of it by "meditation" the witness held to her story of positive identification.

Block Further Identification

While pushing for identification of the other two assailants in the Mooney home, an objection to this line of questioning by the defense was sustained.

The intruders by the aid of a flash light found Margaret's jacket hanging on the wall and took 45 cents and a compact from one of the pockets. Margaret said when they pressed for money she had directed them to the jacket.

Margaret said she screamed during the fighting, but not until after Julia

said screamed when Margaret was first aroused.

Clothes Not Torn Off

When they went to the Hodshire home, Julia was wearing a coat, Margaret said, and she, the witness, wore a kimona. She said her night gown was not torn from her during the struggle.

Both Slightly Injured

As the injuries received, Margaret said there was a spot on Julia's back and that two days later she had discovered an ear injury. Margaret, herself, had suffered a severe mouth and throat injury, she said, it being a week before her throat injury left.

What seemed like a stumbling block in Margaret's testimony was developed by County Attorney C. W. Mitchell, who, in a near sensational manner asked the witness why she had not told him as county attorney that she was positive of Kennedy's identification until after she had told Detective Davis and Attorney Keith and others.

Afraid to Tell All

Margaret in reply returned to her defense for concealing the identity at one time because of her fear the assailants or their friends would destroy her life in order to prevent her testifying against her assailant.

When asked why for two months while Julia was a guest in the Akers home she had pretended friendship for Julia when she suspected her of planning the attack, Margaret replied:

"I was on pretended friendly terms with Julia for fear of my life."

Accused Kennedy Month Ago

In answer to a question, Margaret fixed the time when she confided her knowledge that it was Kennedy who attacked her, as "more than a month ago."

In reply to a question by Attorney Williams, Margaret denied she had ever drawn a picture of her assailant, showing a "flat head than ran up to a point," or that she had said one of the men had a "monkey face."

Margaret said in reply to another question, she had confided that it was Kennedy who attacked her to R. W. Davis, detective, shortly after she had returned to school.

Mr. Ise Questions Her

Mr. Ise for the defense questioned Margaret briefly, bringing out that she and Julia were affiliated with several of the same organizations in school.

Margaret said in another reply, "I felt sure of Kennedy all of the time. I didn't tell my mother. She knew shortly afterwards that they were on Kennedy's track."

Benefiel "On Carpet"

After the witness was dismissed, Chester Benefiel, state witness, was brought before the court and reprimanded on a report he had been eavesdropping to testimony. Benefiel denied the charge and was allowed to go.

Grover Jackson Tells of Call

Grover Jackson, who at the time of the assault was a night captain on the Coffeyville police department was the second witness. Virtually all of the officer's testimony had been previously published. He testified to the time of his arrival at the Hodshire home as 2:10 a. m.

O. W. Childers, local patrolman, who accompanied Jackson to the Hodshire home and was, according to his testimony the first to investigate the Mooney house, was the next witness. His testimony also followed published reports.

At this hour, 5 o'clock, there was talk of adjournment, but the court determined upon proceeding to the finish, an adjournment being taken at 6 o'clock to 7 o'clock for supper.

Mrs. Hodshire Testifies

Mrs. C. M. Hodshire, the next witness gave an excellent account as a witness and impressed the audience with her seeming desire to be fair to all concerned. She corroborated the way in which the two girls were dressed when they came to her home. She said they were semi-hysteric and held their hands about their abdomens as if experiencing severe pain.

In answer to another question Mrs. Hodshire said that Mr. and Mrs. Kennedy had been in their home once, at an orchestra practice.

The witness gave details of the events after the girls came to her home, telling of the calls to the police, to Mrs. Akers and to the parents of Julia, in Lenapah. The latter got to Coffeyville, she estimated after 3 o'clock.

Miss Mooney Takes Notes

It was during Mrs. Hodshire's turn on the witness stand that Kennedy, for the first time in the court room held a brief whispered conversation with Julia Mooney. Julia had a note book with her and made copious notes of the testimony adduced.

All of the witnesses examined after Miss Akers, testified the Mooney bedroom was disheveled with bed clothes, wadded and feminine undergarments scattered about the room, while one witness testified to an overturned chair. Officer Childers, however, said the bed clothes were not badly mussed.

Denies Miss Akers' Story

In conversation she denied Margaret's statement that she had said, "certainly give in," saying she had included herself and had said, "I suppose we will have to go through with it."

Former Chief Testifies

C. P. Cathers, former chief of police took the stand at 5:45 and was the last witness before the supper recess. His testimony followed closely that of other witnesses. He said, however, that he had been unable to get any fingerprints in the Mooney home.

Kennedy's Wife Present

Kennedy's wife sat throughout the trial beside Miss Mooney and on one or two occasions they exchanged whispers about the testimony, as evidenced by their timeliness. Mrs. Kennedy had left four children in Wichita and accompanied Attorney Williams by motor to Independence. She said she would return to Wichita. While evidently not in the best of health, Mrs. Kennedy appeared hopeful of her husband's ultimate release.

Mr. Hodshire also was a witness, testifying to some of the details of the morning of the assault. He appeared desirous of giving all concerned a square deal. It was he who called the police and a physician.

Robert Hodshire was on the stand a few minutes but gave no new testimony.

Chester Benefiel also was a witness and likewise gave no special testimony.

Says Kennedy "Boasted"

Neal Hayden testified after some objection by defense counsel that Kennedy frequently boasted of his illicit relations with other women. However, he did not see Kennedy on the night of the assault, he said. He was at St. Patrick's dance, but did not see Julia Mooney or Margaret Akers there.

Margaret was called by the defense to identify a drawing of the Mooney home, the same being put in as exhibit 1.

Defense Calls State Witnesses

The state then rested and the defense called McCrabb and Davis, whose essential testimony appeared in the lead of this story.

The court then announced he would reserve his decision until Tuesday morning. But made it Wednesday morning in deference to a request by attorneys in the case who said they would have to appear in district court Tuesday.

Miss Mooney Confident

Julia Mooney, following the trial, expressed confidence in the outcome of her case. She realized she may be bound over and when asked whether she could hold her breath for another thirty days in that event, laughed and said she guessed she could.

It had been a hard hot long day for the witnesses.

A feature of the trial was the presence of a battery of press representatives.

WHITE MAN IS IDENTIFIED AS ASSAILANT

Girl Recognizes Man Who Caused Riot In Coffeyville, March 18th

MOTHER URGED HER

TO BLAME NEGROES

Four Were Wounded In Riot That Followed Attack Story by Girl

Independence, Kans. — Ira Kennedy, white, was identified here Thursday in court by Margaret Akers, white, as one of the three white men who attacked her and Julia Mooney on the night of March 17th at Coffeyville.

The two girls first told authorities they had been assaulted by three Negroes, leading to a race riot the night of March 18h, at Coffeyville in which four were wounded, and an assault by a white mob on the city jail in an attempt to lynch a Negro suspect who had been arrested. State troops finally restored order.

Miss Akers gave her testimony in the preliminary hearing of Kennedy, who formerly lived at Coffeyville, on a statutory charge and of Miss Mooney on a charge of being an accessory before the fact. The witness said Miss Mooney and Miss Mooney's mother urged her to tell the story about being attacked by Negroes. She added that she had feared Kennedy might kill her if she named him.

Miss Akers refused to say whom she suspected as Kennedy's accomplices.

slept. This story started the mob activity and the race rioting.

During the past week officers revealed that Ira Kennedy, a white man, had been arrested on a charge of assaulting the Akers girl. Julia Mooney, her friend, was arrested as an accessory before the fact. This likely pair were placed in jail at the County seat at Independence, Kans., under bond of $20,000. So ends one part of the story of the almost disastrous attempt to cast blame for a crime on the shoulders of innocent Negroes.

WHITE GIRL WHO CLAIMED ATTACK BY COLORED MEN, HELD

Race Riot in March Crime Fastened on Negro Caused

(Special to the Herald)

Coffeyville, Kan., June 3.—The thorough investigation of a reported criminal attack on two white girls last March, by the State attorneys office and interested colored and white citizens, has resulted in the arrest of a white man and one of the girls in the case. The case attracted nation-wide attention, and led to a severe racial disturbance in which several were injured when a mob of whites seeking a Negro suspect invaded the Negro settlement. State troops dispersed the mob.

Julia Mooney (white), a high school senior, started the trouble when she and her friend Margaret Akers told authorities that they had been attacked by three colored men as they

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Judge Dawson Issues Writ As Shadows Darken

N. A. A. C. P.'s DESPERATE FIGHT REWARDED

COLORED ATTORNEYS ON THE JOB

Nathan Bard and Bunyan Fleming were snatched from the jaws of death Thursday when Federal Judge Charles I. Dawson, granted a stay of execution, saving them from dying on the scaffold Friday morning, April 8, as advertised.

Judge Dawson's action was the culmination of frantic and desperate efforts made by the Louisville N. A. A. C. P., to stop what that organization feels was a shameful miscarriage of justice. These men with one Columbus Hollis were indicted over a year ago charged with rape of a white girl in Madisonville, Ky.

Two weeks before three young white women and men in the same town made the cry that Negroes had held the men up assaulted the girls. The story caused a stir but nothing came of it. Then came one Stum and a girl with the same story. This time the community caught fire with excitement. A reward of $2,000 was offered. Men were deputized to try to catch the criminals and after a few days Columbus Hollis was arrested. He "confessed" naming Bard and Fleming as being with him. Hollis is a giant in stature, whereas Fleming is very slight in size. Yet Hollis claimed Fleming made him hold the girl while he (Fleming) attacked her. One blow of Hollis' fist would crush Fleming's skull. At the time of the arrest it was broadcast that the men would be "indicted, tried, convicted and sentenced" on a certain day and as soon after as the law allowed would be hanged. This gruesome prophecy made before the men were identified or tried or convicted aroused the Colored people of the state, especially in the face of the fact a white man caught in the act of rape at Lexington, a few weeks before had been declared insane.

The trial was held at Madisonville. Troops were present to guard the men from mob violence. The jury was taken from the very citizens from whom the soldiers were protecting the men.

Mr. Roscoe Conkling of Louisville was there to defend Fleming but had had no chance to talk to his client. Mr. Walter Robinson was there, representing the Louisville N. A. A. C. P., to defend Bard and Fleming. William Warley was there representing the Louisville N. A. A. C. P to see that Robinson was there. and Colored lawpers were held Monday night and Tuesday morning. They decided, following the precedent of the Arkansas cases to go to the Circuit Federal Court of Appeals at Cincinnati.

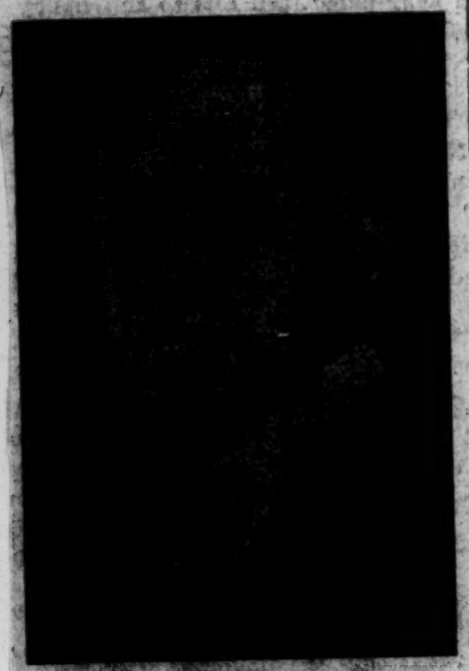
Mr. Charles S. Hall, G. P. Hughes and William Warley went there Tuesday. Wednesday morning Mr. Hall appeared before the justices of that court. Judge C. H. Moorman of Louisville is one of the justices.

Mr. Hall laid the case before the court. The justices talked the case over between them and suggested to Mr. Hall to go before the District Federal Judge. Time being short, the trio hurried to Judge Cochran in Covington. Judge Cochran said he had no jurisdiction in the matter but advised Mr. Hall to go to Judge Dawson of Louisville. Time was flying fast and the three men were dismayed. With the Cincinnati office of the Domestic Life Insurance Company as headquarters, Louisville Attorneys were reached and all papers in the case were sent by special delivery to Louisville and Mr. Nelson M. Willis prepared to go before Judge Dawson. Mr. Willis made an engagement to meet the Judge in his Chambers Wednesday night. The papers did not arrive so Mr. Willis had to rush pell-mell and draw up other papers and secure other affidavits. Mr. Roscoe Conkling readily gave that and Mr. Willis went before Judge Dawson here at Louisville, while Mr. Hughes and Mr. Hall Talked with Judge Dawson from Cincinnati. So chances were taken, Mr. Willis was before Judge Dawson. Mr. Hall was in Cincinnati preparing to go back to the Appellate Court in case Judge Dawson failed to see the matter in their light and Attorney James C. Waters, secretary of the Howard Law School in Washington, D. C., was given a petition over long distance telephone and was prepared to go before the Supreme Court of the United States at Washington, Thursday.

Telephone mesages and telegrams flew like flakes of snow and Messrs. Hughes, Hall and Warley were writhing in suspense at Cincinnati while waiting for word from Willis in Louisville.

The happiness in the Cincinnati office of the Domestic Life Co., and in the lobby of the Sterling Hotel when Willis called Judge Dawson had stayed the execution is beyond description.

Mr. Hall left no avenue closed that could have been used. Mr. Willis did a wonderful bit of work when it is remembered the papers sent from Cincinnati did not arrive Wednesday night as planned. Attorney Waters of Washington, in the meantime had wired precedents and decisions thatass ured final victory. Judge Dawson will hear the case Thursday morning. The Judge is not hearing a trial as to the guilt or innocence of Bard and Fleming but is hearing the petition of Messrs Hall and Willis as to whether their Constitutional rights have been ignored and they did not get a fair trial as guaranteed by the Fourteenth Amendment.



MR. G. P. HUGHES

President Louisville N. A. A. C. P., who has given unstintedly of time and servide during effort to get fair trial for doomed men.

CHARLES SUMNER HALL

Attorney, who made eloquent plea to governor and whose work is crowned with victory.

WALTER ROBINSON

Hopkinsville, Attorney, whose work and affidavit had a great part in this victory.

Robinson and Warley had been to Eddyville and Frankfort and talked with Fleming and Bard and Hollis. Mr. Robinson's defense was built up on what the prisoners had told him there. But in court the morning of the trial he was "advised," friendly advice, not to take any part in the defense as the feeling was so high. An officer of the guard who knew Robinson personally approached him in the court house and told him he thought it best for him not only to leave the court room but to leave Madisonville itself. This officer walked with Robinson and Warley to the train which they boarded and left the city. Under such conditions and circumstances the trial was held. The confessor, Hollis, was given 21 years in the pen and Fleming and Bard were given death sentences.

The Louisville Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People did not feel that the men had gotten a fair trial as guaranteed them by the Constitution of the United States. The guilt or innocence of the men is a secondary matter with this organization. What it is interested in is in securing a fair trial and as the time drew near for their execution, plans were laid to try to get the matter before the Federal Court.

10,000 DISAPPOINTED

We will not make any pretense that we are not glad the execution of Fleming and Bard has been held up.

It is cause for elation and exaltation because it revives the fading faith of the Negro in the ultimate justice of his country. That is something to be grateful for because the patience of the Negro is getting thinner and thinner and it will be a bad day for America if the Negro turns radical.

Efforts to save these men were efforts to vindicate a principle of law and justice—that of a fair and impartial trial. The N. A. A. C. P. is not interested in defending criminals. It is just as much in favor of punishing black criminals. But it is unalterably opposed to injustice of all kinds but particularly that brand of injustice that is unjust because the victim is a Negro

Whereas many people feel these men are innocent of the crime charged, their guilt or innocence did not actuate the N. A. A. C. P., but the feeling that they did not get a fair trial **and they did not get it—mainly because they are Negroes** is the cause of the activities of the N. A. A. C. P.

We take the action of Judge Dawson seriously and soberly.There is nothing of elation because Madisonville citizens are deprived of the promised executio

We read accomodations were made for 10,000 persons to see the execution. Women ad children were to be there. It was to be a gala occasion. What a pity, what a shame—10,000 people allowed to watch and gloat over the death of two human beings. How could people of such mental, moral and spiritual character as to make a festival of a double hanging give men a fair trial?

We are glad they were disappointed. We are glad that the festival impulses of many to gloat over the deaths of fellow humans are to go ungratified.

We are sorry to see anybody deprived of their pleasures and thrills. Life is such a drear, drab proposition an dthere are so few things to give us pleasure that we hate to see anybody lose a chance to be happy and gay. But we are certainly glad the 10,000 who would have packed this open air theater will miss the entertainment. The stage was set, but owing to another engagement the principal characters did not appear.

"There is no joy in Mudville—The mighty Casey has struck out."

A LITTLE WHITE LIE

One of the daily papars, without basis for the lie, made the statement during the Fleming-Bard hearing that a New York orgaization had put up $25,000 to defend these men.

Of course the reference was to the New York heaquarters of the N. A. A. C. P.

The statement was false in two respects. First, no such sum of money has even been contemplated. Second, the New York office has not given one cent to this fight nor any other aid.

This fight, made not alone to save the lives of two men believed to be innocent but to secure fair and impartial trials for Negroes everywhere, has been waged and conducted by the Louisville branch of the N. A. A. C. P. All the money raised has been raised by G. P. Hughes, president, and A. L. Garvin, chairman of the fund to fight the case. To Mr. Garvin and his wide acquaintance in Kentucky goes thecredit for the greatest part of the money raised.

The money needed up to date has not approached $25,000 and although deemed considerable was also deemed worth making the sacrifices to secure in face of the great principles involved.

The Louisville branch gave liberally to the Sweet fight in Detroit and to other causes but it has never received one cent outside of Kentucky.

In denying this little white lie told by a newspaper, we take the opportunity to tell that part of the world we touch, that National headquarers has given neiher money or advice and very little interest in this matter that means so much to the Negroes of America.

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HARD LOOKING WHITE SISTERS ACCUSE NEGRO

DARK BROTHER SAYS THEY "SOLICITED" HIM

He Is Held Under $2,500 Bonds

Jesse Talbott, a gentleman of African descent, was hailed in Police Court, Thursday on charges of detaining two white women. He was arrested last Friday, and the daily papers said "Negro Janitor Detains Two White Women In Basement of Church." Immediately Colored readers thought some Negro janitor or sexton had had a fit or brainstorm and imposed on the communicants of the church. "What a pity, what a pity!" everybody thought. But the News figured any Negro who had sense enough and character enough to be sexton of a white church at Fourth and Catherine street, would have too much sense to risk his life and liberty tackling any white women in the basement o fthe church. So it investigated. This is what it found:

Jesse Talbott, a young Colored man works at the church. Monday a week ago, about 1 o'clock, Mrs Talbott, who works for the pastor at the parsonage next door, happened to look out the window and saw white women peering down in the basement of the church from St Catherine street. That got her goat so she went over and asked what they wanted. The women said, "we are looking for Jess Talbott," just like that. She replied, "What do you want with him, I am his wife"—just like that. The white woman said her husband had sent her there to borrow $4.00 from Jess. Mrs. Talbott answered her husband had no money to lend the white "ooman's" husband and ordered her on her way before she called the police.

This all happened on Monday. The women did not go into the basement because Mr.s albott saw them first. But on Friday they swore out warrants for Talbott, claiming that they went to the church to see him on business and he induced them into the basement, locked the door and proceeded to disrobe, after which he put on display for their approval and admiration his fine brown-skinned physique. This happened 1 o'clock Monday. hey took the warrant out on Friday. Talbott was arrested and released on bond of $2500 for detaining two women. Mrs. Talbott declares the same women were out there two days previous looking for her husband and said that they wanted to "borrow" some money. They talked to Talbott that day. She asked him what they wanted and that is what he told her. But when she saw them looking down in the basement, that was too much for Mrs. Talbott, so she got them told.

A News man was sent to see what kind of white women these were that would go to borrow money from a Colored man for their white husband and who looked so good a black man would get a thrill out of locking them in a basement, taking off his clothes and strutting up and down before them. Why, Adam never did do that before Eve, even before eating that apple! So The News man was at Court Thursday morning and he saw tow women. He could not believe his eyes. He never had seen two hard sisters as those in his life. It was unbelievable, inconcievable, that any black man would look at two white women of their make-up the second time. Ye gods, it was a shock!

Talbott's attorney did not introduce any witnesses—altho the pastor of the church and others were to testify for him—he let the case go to the grand jury. But he ought to have tried in Police Court. Judge Poston, nor Prosecutor Grauman, after looking at those two birds would ever believe any sane man ever "detained" them.

Lynchings- 1927

Louisiana.

2531

Rape; Alleged Attacks by Negroes

Lass of 10 Defies Whole New Orleans Police Force

New Orleans, La., March 4.—Lenora Evans, 10 years old, 1929 N. Dorgenois St., saved some member of our Race from jail on a charge of rape by her stanch stand before the cross-examining police, who were attempting to locate a man of our Race who was alleged to have raped Mary Callabraisi (white), 14, of 2439 St. Anthony St., last week. While the police were searching for the supposed attacker, Lenora was telling the police heads that Mary had fallen and struck her head on the sidewalk and made up the story of being attacked.

Lynchings - 1927

Rape: Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

Maryland.

2533

Did Not Assault Girl, Says Jury

Our American

WESTERTON, MD.—Because testimony did not fit the facts, Lawrence Boswell, taxi-driver, accused of assaulting a white girl on a lonely road in Cumberland County, Pa. was acquitted by a white jury, here Monday.

Baltimore

The girl, who was visiting her aunt in Carlisle at the time of the alleged assault, charged Boswell with an attempt at assault when he drove her into a lonely road, instead of taking her to her aunt's house. Testimony at the trial brought out the fact to the satisfaction of the jury that there was no attempt at forceful assault.

Lynchings- 1927
Rape: Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

Massachusetts.

2534

ACCUSES RACE OFFICER

WHITE WOMAN DECLARES PATROLMAN SHELBURNE TRIED TO ASSAULT HER—SHELBURNE DECLARES IT A FRAME-UP—WAS SENT INTO ALLEY TO AID HER AND THEN ACCUSED

(Boston Advertiser, Feb. 8, 1927)

Mrs. Madeline Prentiss, judged a "perfect woman" in a health contest here, last night revealed the details of an attack she alleges was committed upon her by a colored patrolman of Roxbury early Sunday morning as she walked toward her home.

Her charges are being investigated by Captain Fitzgerald of Station 9 and a police man, Sam Shelburne was grilled by him.

According to her story, Mrs. Prentiss was dragged in a fainting condition from the sidewalk to the back porch of a Roxbury doctor's home.

When she recovered consciousness, she said, half a dozen officers, called by the physician, were standing about with flashlights. 2-12-27

"I went to a movie show in Boston on Saturday night," said Mrs. Prentiss. "I was with a girl chum. We had something to eat and then started for home. My friend separated from me, as her home was in a different direction. On the "L" train, I felt faint. Boston, Mass.

"I decided the fresh air would do me good. So I started walking homeward. I was half dazed and feared most of all that I would faint.

"I was weaker as I approached Grove Hall. A Colored officer stepped up and clutched my arm. "What's the matter with you, lady?" he asked me. I told him I was sick. Then he said: 'That's all right, lady; I am an officer and I"ll take care of you.'

"We were then in front of some stores. When we reached an alleyway, next to the stores, the policeman again took my arm. When I protested he said, 'I'll take care of you.'

"The next I knew I was on the porch.

"I demanded a taxi. The policeman disappeared. The next thing I knew several police officers came and flashed their lights. On the way to the station I told the officers the story, and repeated it at the station."

At City hospital Mrs. Prentiss was declared to be suffering from hysteria.

Lynchings-1927

Rape: Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

Mississippi.

2535

LYNCHING TALK RIFE AT WOODVILLE, MISS.

Negro Attacks Woman and People Are Aroused.

NATCHEZ, Miss., Feb. 17.—Wilkinson County is seething with excitement tonight, especially the section surrounding Stephenson, where a girl was attacked by a negro named Jack Emberly, at 9:30 o'clock this morning.

Reports received here from Stephenson said that men were assembling at a filling station and made no secret of their intention to go to Woodville, the county seat, during the night and hang the negro.

In response to an inquiry by long distance telephone Sheriff H. A. Wood at Woodville declared that he anticipated no trouble and that guards had not been placed around the jail.

Residents of Stephenson said that the girl resided at a lumber camp about five miles out and that when her mother left the house in her car for town, she called back to her daughter that she would be gone for some time. It was stated that Emberly was walking along the road at this was walking along the road at this time, and evidently heard the statement, as he came to the front door of the house within a few minutes and stated that he wanted to buy some milk. When told to leave he went to the back door and gained entrance, wresting a shotgun from the hands o fthe young woman when she attempted to defend herself. He was captured within an hour and after being positively identified was carried to Woodville and turned over to Sheriff Wood.

GIRL ATTACKED AND SLAIN, HER SISTER IS SHOT

Bloodhounds, Plane Seek Negro.

Jackson, Miss., June 3.—(AP)—Radio, an airplane, and bloodhounds were called on today to trace an unidentified man who invaded the home of O. S. Reese, a dairyman, near here today, attacked and killed his sister, and then seriously wounded his wife. Physicians expressed doubt that she would recover.

Child Gives Alarm.

Reese said he was on his dairy route when the crime was committed about 6 o'clock this morning, and that first intimation of crime when one of his children met a Negro maid at the door with the cry "Somebody's shot my mother!"

The Negro woman said she found Miss Martha Reese, 19, dead in bed in one room, and Mrs. Reese, 38, dead in another. Mrs. Reese apparently had been shot as she lay in bed with her two children. The younger woman, physicians said, had been attacked and then slain. Both had been shot through the head.

Negro Is Sought.

The maid said she had seen a Negro man leaving the Reese home shortly before she came to go to work, driving Reese's automobile, and Reese's 3 year old son said "A yellowish-white Negro came into the room with a flashlight and took a small bank and then shot my mother."

Mrs. Reese had not regained consciousness tonight and search was started on this meager description of the man.

CITIZENS OF JACKSON WILL AVOID LYNCHING

Petition Urges That Negro Fiend Be Allowed Trial.

JACKSON, Miss., June 15.—A remarkably frank and open statement published here today with signatures of seven prominent citizens as sponsors for "five thousand others," discussing the threatened lynching of the negro Walter Burley, who has confessed to the murder of the two Rees women, declares it has "been mutually agreed by every one who knew of this movement and thousands knew of it—that the thing to do was to refrain from lynching this negro at the present, at least, in order that the state may have every opportunity possible of convicting any and everyone else that might be connected with the crime, if there should be accomplices." The statement further declares that "to entail upon the taxpayers the enormous expense of prosecuting such a brute is unfair, unjust and uncalled-for." It scores the local newspapers for printing reports of contemplated mob violence and in "writing inflammatory editorials which, to a highly enraged public is like waving a red flag in a bull's face."

This statement says "that for the sole and only purpose of ferreting out the guilty parties, if there were others than Burley, thus saving innocent persons from the hands of a desperate citizenship, several hundred of as good citizens as Hinds County boasts, or the state as for that, represented by every profession in Hinds County (editors excepted) asked W. T. Jackson, H. B. Leach, an attorney, and W. L. Shults to go to Montgomery, Alabama, and interrogate the murderer, if possible, and elicit from him information as to whether he alone committed the crime, or whether there were accomplices. This task was successfully performed. A full detailed confession was obtained from Walter Burley, in which he admitted committing the crime, in the most brutal and blood-curdling way, taking the sole responsibility upon himself and exonerating everyone else.

Doubt as to Confession.

"After studying the statement carefully, there remained a doubt in the minds of these gentlemen as to whether Burley told all the truth about the crime, or whether he was carefully withholding that part of it which would implicate someone else. Therefore it was mutually agreed by everyone who knew of this movement, and thousands knew of it, that the thing to do was to refrain from lynching this negro, at the present, at least, in order that the state might be given every opportunity possible of convicting any and eevryone else that might be connected with the crime, if there should be accomplices."

It is also declared that "there is no use of the national guard being called out in order that this negro may have a legal trial; that is if the papers will quit publishing wild rumors and inflammatory editorials."

After then declaring that to entail upon the taxpapers "the enormous expense of such a brute is unfair, unjust and uncalled for," the statement concludes:

"If the troops are called out and this expense incurred, and human blood shed over this affair, we want to make it plan to the two papers of this city, especially the Jackson News, that the responsibility will rest with them, and not with the mass of the people of this county who have, by no act of theirs, created a condition calling for such a course as hinted at, intimated, insinuated and almost direcctly charged."

It is signed, "Respectfully submitter, W. T. Jackson, H. B. Leach, W. L. Shults, L. B. Hoskins, W. B. Montgomery, Homer Bond, E. L. Beckham and five thousand others."

The crime is set out in the statement, as confessed to by Burley, as follows:

"After deliberately sneaking into the home of Mrs. Rees, where she and her two little children and her husband's little sister, were sleeping, the murderer shot the little girl twice through the side, coolly walked into the adjoining room where Mrs. Reese had retreated, after attempting to come to the girl's rescue, and shot her through the head, rendering her unconscious, and from which would she died a few hours afterward. Then he returned to the girl's room and placing his smoking .32 automatic pistol near her head, fired the third shot into her which penetrated her head clear through and lodged in the mattress below. Then with the heinousness which would shame a brute, he outraged her prostrate form as she lay lifeless on the bed where he had killed her."

Lynchings-1927

Missouri.

2536

Rape; Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

White Man, 51, Admitting Assault on 10-Year-Old Niece, Is Given Two Years

Clarence Woods, 51 years old, pleaded guilty Tuesday to criminal assault on his 10-year-old niece and was sentenced by Judge C. A. Burney to two years in the penitentiary.

The girl who was assaulted is a niece of Woods' wife. Woods interrupted the trial, which was nearing its end, and entered a plea of guilty.

Previous to this trial, George Heath, another uncle of the girl, brother of Mrs. Woods, was convicted of criminally assaulting the child and was given 20 years in the penitentiary by Judge Allen C. Southern.

Herbert Heath, brother of George, pleaded guilty to common assault on the child and was given 60 days in jail.

The Heath and Woods assaults on a little child and the sentences imposed on them have aroused much comment from both white and black people in view of the death sentence given Cleo Williams for criminal assault on a young white girl, and life sentence given Zanie Stagland, co-defendant of Williams, for the same offense.

Judge Allen C. Southern, in imposing the death sentence on Williams, despite the plea of guilty, stated that "an emergency" existed. Just a day before sentencing Williams, a white boy was given five years for an attempted assault on a three-year-old girl by Judge Southern. Then came the Heath case in which a sentence of only 20 years was imposed, despite records showing Heath had been convicted some years ago on a similar charge. Now comes the Woods plea of guilty to an attack on the same girl, and the sentence from Judge Burney—two years.

Investigation Demanded Of Report Colored Highwayman Victimized Party In Forest Park

SEE REPORT AS A HOAX

Think Story Related To Escape Punishment. Admits She Had Kept Quiet About Previous Encounter

..Fearing the wrath of their parents because they had been out too late, Cecilia Clayton, 16, a student and Marie Pitcher, 19, a telephone operator confessed that they had invented the tale they told police Tuesday of having been attacked by a Negro in Forest Park to Detectives Taylor and Schneider of the Mounted District.

The girls said they had been parked in a machine with two boys, Glenn Duvall and Joseph S. Manes behind Art Hill in the park about midnight Monday. A Negro did hold them up and take their money and jewelry but he did not attack them the girls confessed.

They said they had made up the story because they had been out late against the wish of their parents and were afraid of the consequences. So they all thought of the Negro attack story and drove to police station and told it, they say.

The Original Story

Fear of parental wrath over their absence from home until early in the morning is believed to have led two young white girls to plot with two white youths, who accompanied them on an automobile ride, to explain their absence by saying that they were held up and the girls assaulted by a "Negro" bandit.

Doubt Story

All efforts of the police to locate the criminal who committed the alleged crime have failed, but the girls and youths have stuck to their story in spite of questioning by the police.

The evidence in the story told the authorities is so weak and flimsy, that the truth of the whole account has been seriously doubted. A thorough probe of the incident is being demanded.

Lynchings-1927

Rape: Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

New York.

2537

ATTEMPT TO RAPE HARLEM WOMAN IN FLAT

Blow Knocks Out Four of Her Teeth—Suspect Arrested and Held on Four Charges

Hiding beneath his victim's bed until midnight, attempting to rape her as she disrobed, and knocking out six of her teeth as she fought to protect her honor, is the serious charge placed against Frank Cooper, 19, no home, who was arrested early Monday morning.

It is claimed that Cooper had forced entrance to the apartment of Miss Sara Puntun, 56 West 130th street, and concealed himself beneath her bed. Not knowing that the man was there, Miss Puntun is said to have returned to her apartment about 11 p.m. Sunday night and prepared herself for retiring.

Cooper is said to have emerged from his hiding place as she was in her negligee and attempted to rape her. Miss Puntun was frightened almost into hysterics and fought desperately with her assailant, who muffled her cries by cupping his hands over her mouth. During the furious encounter Cooper is said to have forcibly struck Miss Puntun in the mouth with some blunt instrument which knocked out six of her teeth and sent her into a state of semi-consciousness.

The commotion had aroused other persons in the building and police were called. Patrolman Kielkelly of the West 135th Street Station captured Cooper as he made a desperate attempt to escape. He has four charges against him: Felonious assault, attempted rape, forcing entry for purpose of robbery and for stealing a sweater, shoes and victrola.

Lynchings - 1927

Rape: Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

North Carolina.

2773

Youth Is Held On Assault Charge

DURHAM, N. C., Feb. 24.—(By A. N. P.)—Evans McLaurin, a 19-year old lad, is being held in the Durham county jail, without privilege of bail, charged with criminal assault upon a colored girl, whose name is being withheld. The girl is in the Lincoln hospital in a serious condition as result of a pistol shot wound alleged to have been inflicted on her by her attacker.

The boy after denying all knowledge of the crime, is reported to have later confessed that he had shot the girl, but declared that he had not criminally assaulted her. No ill feeling was noticed and no lynching is feared.

Constructive Comment

The better element of Negro citizens in Asheville have no sympathy with the slayer of Miss MARY MCGUIRE, seventy-one-year-old White woman, whose mangled body was found in the Negro residential section several weeks ago, according to an editorial in the Asheville *Enterprise*, Negro newspaper.

Commenting on the slayer's confession, *The Enterprise* observes:

We can not and do not sympathize with the perpetrators, there is no leniency in our hearts and the courts of this great commonwealth should relegate to the rear all semblances of mitigation.

We candidly and with malice in our hearts towards no one, believe that "in what manner ye "judge, ye shall be judged," and "in what measure ye mete, "it shall be measured to you "again." That portrays the one great character, "Justice."

The rigid enforcement of the prohibition law; the obliteration of "bawdy houses," and a general survey of questionable places, will go a long ways in preventing a recurrence of a crime of a similar nature.

We deplore the crime, but that is not its undoing. We admire the patience of White Asheville in not censuring us as a whole and will not think less of the courts for meteing due punishment to the perpetrators.

The constructive view of *The Enterprise* is of the kind that will go a long way toward cementing the friendl relations between the two races in North Carolina.

BLOODHOUNDS USED TO TRAIL CAROLINA BOY

Employer's Wife Made Grave Charge

Durham, N. C., May 6.—Darkness put a temporary halt to one of the greatest man hunts in the history of Granville county Saturday night, April 30, after Sheriff E. D. Hunt and his deputies and upwards of five hundred Granville county men and boys had spent the entire day searching for John Bullock, 20. They claimed he attacked Mrs. Fabius Neston, wife of a prominent farmer, residing four miles from Creedmore.

Bloodhounds were put on Bullock's trail shortly after noon Saturday, April [illegible] and the trail kept for 10 miles. Officers and the mob of followers found that Bullock had gone to his father's home, **some miles from** Creedmore and changed shoes. Still the hounds followed, but the trail grew fainter at nightfall.

The alleged attack occurred at the corn crib of the Newton farm. Bullock had been sent by his employer, Harry Clay, neighboring farmer, for some feed. Mr. Newton went to the farm to plow and asked his wife to measure the feed for Bullock. Alone in the crib with Mrs. Newton, Bullock grabbed her arm with one hand and began choking her with the other. He then threw her on a pile of feed and it was some moments before Mrs. Newton's cries ran her assailant away.

No one was on the farm except Mr. Newton and several small children, who were at the house. The husband answered his wife's alarm, but Bullock had fled. Sheriff Hunt and his deputies were summoned, but it was noon before bloodhounds could be brought in from a neighboring county.

Scores of cars from Oxford and other places in the section went to the scene of the crime, and the mob grew larger. There was some talk of lynching and a few men were armed, but there was no widespread mob feeling.

Mrs. Newton, with the exception of bruises about the throat and body, was not seriously injured and was confined to her bed except for a very short time.

SEARCH CONTINUES FOR NEGRO SLAYER

Morganton, N. C., June 23.—(AP)—Under leaden skies and with a light mist falling, last rites were held today at the little church at Catawba Valley cemetery over the body of a 15-year-old girl, victim of an attack by a negro late Tuesday.

Outside, for miles around, bands of men trudged tirelessly through wood and field and [illegible] Broadus Miller, negro, charged with the attack, for whom $500 has been offered, dead or alive.

Tonight the streets of the little town were patrolled by militia. Troopers from Company B, 105th engineers, of the North Carolina national guard, lined the streets upon orders of the adjutant general, who authorized their presence in response to a riot call sounded by Morganton citizens.

Repeatedly rumors came that the negro had been seen in a certain spot. Hastily troopers and armed bands would race to the locality, only to return empty-handed.

Three persons are being held in connection with the crime. Will Berry, with whom Miller boarded while in Morganton, is being held in an unannounced county as a material witness. He was moved secretly from the local jail last night after some show of resentment had been displayed against him. His wife also is being held and the third person is a negro, who says his name is Lucius Livingston. He is held as a suspect.

NEWS
Goldsboro N C
DEC 29 1927

SHEARS AND PASTE

JUST ANOTHER STATUTE

(Greensboro Daily News)

The solitary bit of evidence offered on behalf of Larry Newsome, negro who was convicted in Goldsboro in the Sunday morning session of the Superior court, was that of a physician of a state hospital for the insane to the effect that Newsome had the mentality of a ten-year-old. If the jury heard the testimony it gave no sign of it. The prime consideration of that Sunday morning session seems to have been to prevent Newsome from being murdered by a mob and to sentence him to death as quickly as possible.

A certain amount of more or less sober second thought has lately come to light to indicate that the trial may have consideration from a higher court. But meantime the question of the evidence as to Newsome's mentality has received attention from a number of newspapers in the east, including the Nashville Graphic and the Rocky Mount Telegram; and on that subject the Telegram offers this:

Part of the evidence brought out at the negro's trial was given by alienists at the state hospital for negroes located at Goldsboro, and was to the effect that the accused negro was of exceedingly low mentality and that mentally he was no more than ten years of age.

In the face of that testimony, the Graphic brings out, the negro was only recently married. That means that he had to pass a mental and physical examination to secure a marriage certificate. There is conflict somewhere between the testimony of alienists at Larry Newsome's trial and the okeh given to his marriage certificate by some other physician.

The observation of the Graphic reminds us that not so long ago we read somewhere of a young man who died in the state of tuberculosis. Yet he had been married only a short time and must necessarily have had the dreaded disease when some "reputable physician" issued him a health certificate which gave him permission to get married.

These instances simply lead one to wonder what the state marriage health certificate amounts to anyway.

It amounts to virtually nothing. It has never amounted to more, and under present conditions it never will. Like hundreds—perhaps thousands—of others, it is just another statute in the books; sound in its fundamental idea, but easily dodged, indifferently enforced and in important respects wholly disregarded. We have lots of them. We glory in them, and it will take a good deal more than the influence of a Larry Newsome case to do anything about them.

Lynchings-1927
Rape: Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

Pennsylvania

2538

CITY OF BROTHERLY LOVE HAS RACE RIOT

Philadelphia, Pa., April 1.—Filmore Slaughter and Robert Williams, both of Camden, were seriously beaten last week in a race riot at 24th St. and Havenford Ave., which is in "Corktown," the scene of many previous battles. A crowd of 50 men of both races were involved. The police station at 32d St. and Woodland Ave. rushed a detachment of reserves to the scene after receiving more than a hundred telephone calls from terrified residents.

The riot began when a gang of whites accused Slaughter and Williams of approaching two white girls. When they were attacked by the whites Race men ran to their aid and a general free-for-all ensued. Slaughter received a fractured skull and Williams a concussion of the brain as they were kicked and struck over the head with bricks and milk bottles. Joseph Kerley (white), 626 Shedwick St., was badly cut about the head with a brick. The three men were rushed to the Presbyterian hospital.

Magistrate Dugan Kerley ordered Victor Devvecchis (white), 5054 Parkside Ave., and Joseph McCullough (white), 621 N. 35th St., when they were arraigned before him, to be held in $5,000 bail each as the riot leaders to await the outcome of Slaughter's and Williams' condition.

GIRL FOUND SLAIN IS IDENTIFIED AS COLLEGE DOMESTIC

Washington, Pa., December 30.—(AP) The unclad body of Thelma Young, 17, of Washington, with a deep cut in the forehead over the right eye, was found in a field at the city limits today. Blood, scattered over a radius of 50 feet, indicated that the girl struggled with her assailant. It was believed that she was killed with a brick, found nearby. The clothing had been ripped from her body, which bore many scratches and bruises.

Police learned that Miss Young, employed as a domestic in the Washington and Jefferson college athletic training house, had left her home last night to attend a motion picture show. This was the last trace of her until the body was found this morning by Dominic Grisalow, who works in the glass works here with the victim's father, Sylvester Young. She is survived by her parents, six brothers and nine sisters.

Several hours after Miss Young's body was found, Fred Drew, 17, negro, was arrested as a suspect in the case. He was found hiding under a bed in his home near the field where the body was discovered. When the police placed him under arrest, Drew shouted "I didn't do it."

Drew had been suspected in previous attacks on girls, detectives reported, and had failed to account for his movements last night and early today. In his room they found a black mask made from a silk stocking.

Police revealed that Miss Young met her death near the spot where four other Washington girls have been attacked during the past few weeks.

Lynchings - 1927

South Carolina.

2539

Rape: Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

NEGRO CONFESSES HE KILLED WOMAN

Aged Victim Is Found In South Carolina Home With Throat Badly Slashed

COLUMBIA, S. C., June 26.—Full confession that he attacked and then murdered a 76-year-old white woman in her home near York, S. C., yesterday, was made today by William McKinley Thompasson, 16-year-old negro, shortly after he arrived at the state penitentiary here for safekeeping.

The aged woman was found in her home shortly after noon yesterday with her throat hacked and the room covered with blood.

In his confession made before W. W. Rogers, state detective, the negro recounted the brutal crime, stating that he went to the house and asked for a match, which was given him, and then followed the woman into the house and attacked her. He said then fearing his crime would be told, he slashed her throat with a pocket knife.

The negro was arrested early today and rushed here to prevent mob violence.

Lynchings-1927
Rape: Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

Tennessee

2540

Negro Laborer Held On Assault Charge; Denies Accusations

NASHVILLE, TENN., Jan. 17.—Will Terrell, 21 year old negro laborer, was arrested late today in connection with criminal attack on a white woman, 51 years of age, residing on a farm seven miles west of here. He denied knowledge of the crime.

The victim told police that a negro answering Terrell's description, attacked her and her blind sister, 71, from behind, as they were walking down a lane to a country store, knocking them both down and assaulting her.

Terrell, who was arrested on a suburban street car, later was identified by the woman as her assailant when he was taken before her at police headquarters.

HELD FOR ASSAULT.

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Jan. 17.—(AP)—Will Terrell, 21-year-old negro laborer, was arrested today in connection with a criminal attack on a white women 51 years of age, residing on a farm seven miles west of here. He denied knowledge of the crime.

The victim told police that a negro answering Terrell's description attacked her and blinded her sister, 71, from behind, as they were walking down a lane to a country store, knocking them both down and assaulting her.

Terrell, who was arrested on a suburban street car, later was identified by the woman as her assailant when he was taken before her at police headquarters.

officers that evening was high in the suburban section where the [illegible] attack occurred. He denied all knowledge of the affair.

Screams in the face of a warning "not to [illegible]" frightened the woman's assailant as they struggled just within the front door of her home late Sunday night, she said. Bruises and shock constituted her chief injuries, and though greatly weakened, she was able to go to the jail, where she identified Stewart. Afterwards she fainted and was revived through first aid methods.

Mrs. Rice said that her husband departed to his work Sunday night, leaving the front door open. The negro secreted himself behind the door and when she went to lock it, sprang forth and seized her. She scuffled with him for a few minutes in the light from the interior of the house, but when her screams persisted, the negro suddenly released her and ran out.

Mrs. Rice went to a telephone and called Mrs. J. T. Combs, a neighbor, asking her to bring over a gun.

Officers began an immediate investigation and dogs obtained from Deputy Sheriff Ed Pugh were placed on the trail. They followed a round-about course, finally stopping at the negro's home in Rock City, a mile and a half from the scene of the alleged assault.

Deputy Sheriff C. A. Williams found Stewart in bed and arrested him. He was taken first to city jail but was removed to the county jail after a brief hearing before Squire H. F. Baker.

He told Williams that he had been in another section of town at the time of the assault and that he did not know Mrs. Rice. He caught a street car and rode to his home, retiring at about 11 o'clock, he asserted.

DOGS TRAIL NEGRO ACCUSED BY WOMAN

Alleged Assailant, However, Arrested at His Home, Denies Charge, Claims Alibi

NASHVILLE, TENN., July 11.—(AP)—Trailed to his home by bloodhounds Will Stewart, 52, Negro painter, was held in county jail without bond today on a charge of attempting to assault Mrs. J. L. Rice, middle-aged housewife.

He manifested perfect calm, and was apparently undisturbed by reports from

News

Newspaper

O COLORED PEOPLE

1927 Lynchings: Rape, Alleged Attacks by Negroes. $2.00 PER YEAR.

IN SUSPENSE

NEGRO WORLD WAITING TO HEAR JUDGE DAWSON'S DECISION

RESUME OF TRIAL IN FEDERAL COURT

Colored people of Louisville, Ky, and other parts of the country are waiting in suspense for the decision of Federal Judge Charles I. Dawson in the case of Fleming and Bard, which was tried before him Monday, Tuesday of this week as to whether their constitutional rights had been denied them in a trial at Madisonville, Ky., in April 1926.

It is a remarkable story, this case of Bunyan Fleming and Nathan Bard.

Sentenced to die June 4, 1926, they were saved on an appeal to the State's Appellate Court. That tribunal upheld the verdict of the lower courts and the boys were again sentenced to die April 8, 1927. Meanwhile something about the arrest of these men, the prophecy made in the daily papers before trial or identification that they "would be indicted, tried, convicted and sentenced to be hanged in 30 days" and theinr hurried trial aroused the interest of the Editor of the Louisville News, William Warley, who was also president of the Louisville N. A. A. C. P. Mr. Warley called the Executive Committee of the branch together and presented to the members the gruesome phophecies made before any trial and compared the 15 minute trial of Harris at Lexington who had been hanged and the insanity verdict of Merchant, white, charged with the same offense and caught in the act, and urged that the Louisville branch not go to sleep on this case. The Executive Committee agreed unanimously the case warranted investigation and sent Mr. Walter Robinson, Hopkinsville attorney and Mr. Warley to the penintentiarks where the men had been taken for "safe keeping" until the legal excution.

These gentlemen visited Columbus Hollis, who made the alleged confession implicating the others. They quizzed him and found his story full of holes and absurdities. They talked with Bunyan Fleming and Nathan Bard and reported to the Louisville branch they doubted Hollis' confession or that the men were guilty. The Louisville branch then set out to defend the men. The story of how they were tried etc., up until Judge Dawson granted a writ of habeas corpus two days before the execution set for April 8 is well known by every Negro who reads Negro newspapers.

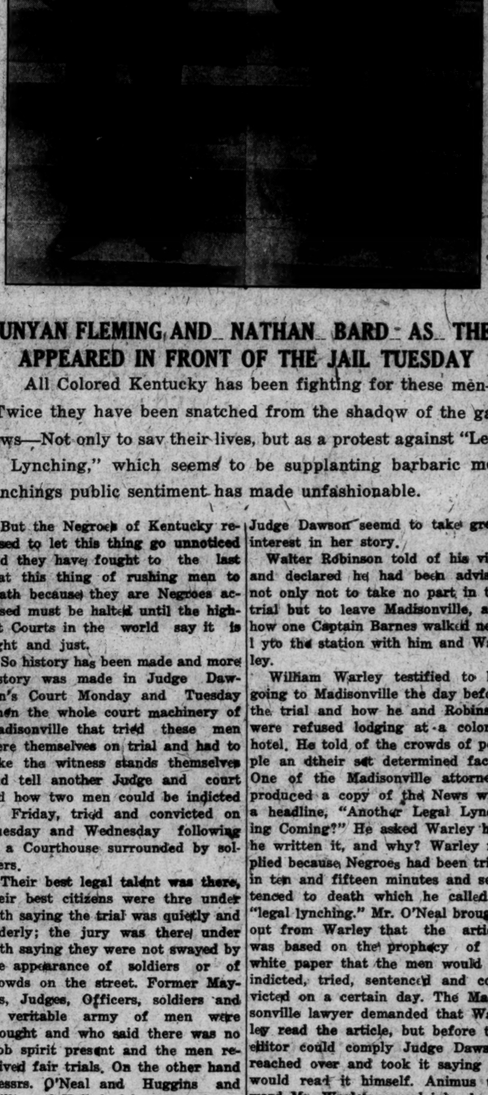
Incidentally, I. Willis Cole, editor of the Louisville Leader, and William Warley, editor of the Louisville News were indicted for alleged libel of the presiding Judge and Cole fined $250, and Warley and the News $50. Their cases are before the Court of Appeals at the present time.

Judge Dawson granted the writ on motions of attornays Nelson Willis, Charles Hall and Clem Huggins and set the hearing as to sustainig it permanently for Monday, April 25. ThenMr. Merit O'Neal was added to the list of attorneys as it was announced Hopkins Countty would send an array of attorneys.

By this time the case had attracted nation wide attention. A remarkable thing had been accomplished by the Negroes of Kentucky.

Acting on the premise that no man could secure fair trials where soldiers had to be sent to guard the Courthouse, where they were to be tried before a Judge and prosecuttor who had assured the populace a speedy trial would be given and by a jury taken from that very populace, eleven colored men and women in the city of Louisville had twice snatched the men off the gallows and were fighting tooth and nail to test once and for all whether Black men could secure fair trials under such conditions, and this eleven Negro men and women receiving the unstinted financial supportt of thousands of Kentucky Negroes—it was and is the most remarkable history making event in this country.

How many hundreds of Negroes have been railroaded to death and nothing done about it.



BUNYAN FLEMING AND NATHAN BARD AS THEY APPEARED IN FRONT OF THE JAIL TUESDAY

All Colored Kentucky has been fighting for these men—Twice they have been snatched from the shadow of the gallows—Not only to sav their lives, but as a protest against "Legal Lynching," which seems to be supplanting barbaric mob lynchings public sentiment has made unfashionable.

But the Negroes of Kentucky refused to let this thing go unnoticed and they have fought to the last that this thing of rushing men to death because they are Negroes accused must be halted until the highest Courts in the world say it is right and just.

So history has been made and more history was made in Judge Dawson's Court Monday and Tuesday when the whole court machinery of Madisonville that tried these men were themselves on trial and had to take the witness stands themselves and tell another Judge and court ted how two men could be indicted on Friday, tried and convicted on Tuesday and Wednesday following in a Courthouse surrounded by soldiers.

Their best legal talent was there, their best citizens were thre under oath saying the trial was quietly and orderly; the jury was there under oath saying they were not swayed by the appearance of soldiers or of crowds on the street. Former Mayors, Judges, Officers, soldiers and a veritable army of men were brought and who said there was no mob spirit present and the men received fair trials. On the other hand Messrs. O'Neal and Huggins and Willi sand Hall, had but few witnesses. But many of them were Negroes who live in Hopkins County and who have to go back there to live and yet they were bold enough to take the stand and under oath tell incidents that throbbed with evidence of mob spirit prevailing. In the two days trial, Mr. Roscoe Conkling, white, Louisville attorney, testified as to the feeling and how he could only talk to his client, Fleming, about fifteen minutes each of two times. He told how he was refused permission to talk to him on the train by the soldiers. Mrs. Bunyan Fleming made a good witness as she told how she was sent to jail for three weeks because she told a different story from Hollis, the confessor, and was released only after her husband had been convicted.

Judge Dawson seemd to take great interest in her story.

Walter Robinson told of his visit and declared he had been advised not only not to take no part in the trial but to leave Madisonville, and how one Captain Barnes walked near l yto the station with him and Warley.

William Warley testified to his going to Madisonville the day before the trial and how he and Robinson were refused lodging at a colored hotel. He told of the crowds of people an dtheir set determined faces. One of the Madisonville attorneys produced a copy of the News with a headline, "Another Legal Lynching Coming?" He asked Warley had he written it, and why? Warley replied because Negroes had been tried in ten and fifteen minutes and sentenced to death which he called a "legal lynching." Mr. O'Neal brought out from Warley that the article was based on the prophecy of a white paper that the men would be indicted, tried, sentenced and convicted on a certain day. The Madisonville lawyer demanded that Warley read the article, but before the editor could comply Judge Dawson reached over and took it saying he would read it himself. Animus toward Mr. Warley was plainly shown by the Madisonville lawyer. Rev. Davieks, Baptist minister, Mr. Ryan, young colored lawyer of Earlington, JimBard, and Mr. Davidson of Earlington, all colored, gave strong testimony and declared the mob spirit was rampart. Ryan and Bard declared they had heard Madisonville people say, "It is costing the County $20,000 to try these niggers, let us have them and wel will do it for nothing.

As has been said the opposition had scores of witnesses who declared the trial was quiet and orderly and they saw no crowds, etc.

A copy of the Louisville News and a number of copies of the Madisonville Messenger were put in the record.

Lynchings-1927
Rape by Whites.

California

2570

"HUMAN APE" ADMITS AN ATTACK ON SMALL GIRL

Pacific Coast News Bureau

LOS ANGELES, Calif., Mar. 16— Another one of the [illegible] sault cases in which white girls invariably laid to the hands of a "huge dark person" has been solved by the confession of Henry Le[illegible] white,

a "human ape man" who lives more like a monkey than a human being, according to testimony by his defense when arranged recently on trial in Superior Judge Burnell's court charged with attacking a 13 year old girl.

Half Man-Half Ape

The father, tears streaming down his cheeks told the jury that his son refused to live in a house, dug caves for himself, would not wear clothes and climbed trees to jabber at people like an ape. His father is James Leroy, cowman and farmer deputy sheriff of Arizona.

SEND WHITE MORON TO ASYLUM IN GIRL CASE

LOS ANGELES, Calif., Mar. 23 — Henry Leroy the white moron known as the "Monkey Man," will be sent to Patton Insane Asylum instead of San Quentin, for an attack upon a white girl, Judge Burnell decided Saturday.

Showing leniency to the youth, the judge set aside the sentence of one to fifty years on the charge of attacking the 14 year old girl. Alienists had testified that Leroy is not insane, but feeble-minded and should not put in the State prison.

White "Ape" Man Attacks 13 Yr. Old

LOS ANGELES, CAL.—Another mystery which had been generally laid to race criminality was solved here this week with the confession of Henry Leroy, white, described as a human "ape" man of low mentality, who attacked a 13 year old girl.

When the case was first reported the girl stated [illegible] dark person assaulted her and at the trial his father confessed that the boy was mentally defective and climbed trees and jabbered like an ape.

GIRL IS MORON'S VICTIM

Pretty Young Los Angeles Maid Is Abducted, Doped And Attacked By a White Fiend

LOS ANGELES, Calif., July 13. — Widespread search is being conducted here by police for the white moron who assaulted Rose Williams, 17 years old, and kept her a prisoner in the Baldwin Hills throughout the night.

In a historical condition as a result of her experiences during the night, pretty Miss Williams staggered into the Venice police station in the morning and told the story of her abduction and frightful experiences during the time she was held a prisoner by her white assailant.

Dopes Girl

She stated she was on her way to her home at 555 South Normandie avenue from Lincoln park and had alighted from a street car at Clinton street and western avenue, when her assailant drove up in a small car.

The white man seized her without warning, she said, and drowned her cries by sounding the horn of automobile then he overpowered her, tied her up and drugged her by forcing her to swallow part of the contents of a bottle he had with him.

Fights assailant

She regained consciousness. She said, to find herself in an isolated spot in the Baldwin Hills, where her captor untied her. She struggled desperately to escape, she said, he overpowered her again and forced her to remain with him until morning. Then he drove her to the beach and flung her out of the car.

Meanwhile the girls parents, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Williams had become alarmed over their daughter's absence and phoned police, who were searching for her.

The girl described her assailant as white being about 35 years of age, smooth shaven, rather tall and fairly well dressed.

Lynchings-1927
Rape by Whites.

D.C.

2571

Girl Hits Alleged Rapist In Cour

WASHINGTON.—"If the Govern
ment won't protect me, I will pro
tect myself," said Miss Ata E. Jen
kins, 1322 L street, northwest, i
Criminal Court Monday, as sh
brushed aside spectators and rush
ed to the side of Gesare Tryello
white, striking him, after Judg
Hoehling had acquitted the latte
of an alleged rape charge, brough
by

Miss Jenkins fainted after she
struck Tryello and was carried from
the court room where she was re-
vived. The judge took no notice o
the incident.

Florida.

2572

Lynchings-1927
Rape by Whites.

MAN ATTACKS NIECE

Another Uncle of Girl Assaulted When He Tries to Protect Her

LEESBURG, FLA., July 23.—(AP)—Charged with having attacked his 13-year-old niece and to have assaulted her uncle, Fred Hutchins, when he attempted to intervene, Roy Sweringen, who is said to be uncle of the girl, is in jail at Sanford and has confessed to the crime, Sheriff R. M. Cassady announced here tonight.

Sheriff Cassady, said Sweringen confessed following his arrest several days ago. Court officials indicated that a special grand jury would be convened to investigate the case.

Two negroes also are being held in connection with the case and are said by officers to have made confessions. One of the negroes was saved from mob violence by the timely arrival of a Leesburg newspaperman and an officer.

Lynchings—1927
Rape by Whites.

Georgia.

2573

TRY GEORGIAN FOR ASSAULT ON GIRL OF 15

St. Paul Stirred Over White Man's Crime

St. Paul, Minn., April 1.—William Hall, (white) formerly of Atlanta, Ga., who was arrested Monday, Feb. 14, at the Overland building by Detective James Mitchell and two white detectives for the raping of 15-year-old Mary Lizzie Jones, was brought to trial before Judge Bechhoefer Monday morning in district court.

Hall's attorney asked for a continuance to March 31. Unable to furnish a $500 bond, Hall has been confined in the Ramsay county jail since his arrest.

He appeared in municipal court before Judge Clayton Parks on March 15 for the preliminary hearing and was bound over to the district court to await trial.

Citizens here are stirred to indignation at the fiendish crime and threats have been made against Hall.

According to testimony the child was only 14 years of age, unlettered and unable to tell the number of weeks in a month or months in the year; she did not know her exact age. She remembered that when she was 11 years of age her mother, leaving the country, left her with a friend.

C. D. O'Brien, Jr., county attorney, called the girl's aunt, who testified that she was able to place the child's age as 14 last January.

The St. Paul and Minneapolis branches of the N. A. A. C. P. are co-operating with the county attorney's office in seeing that justice is done.

According to the girl's story, she was brought to Minneapolis by the Hall family when they motored here from Georgia. She had worked for the family for two years, washing, ironing, cooking and nurse girl for their two children.

Investigation showed that Hall had assaulted her at various times, the last attack taking place in a rooming house at 674 St. Peter St. He threatened to have her placed in a reformatory if she related what occurred.

TWO WHITE BOYS FOUND GUILTY OF RAPE

A few days ago two white boys were found guilty of raping a colored girl in Dougherty County, Georgia, Superior Court. Rev. —— reported the facts to the Atlanta Independent as follows:

"Mr. Editor:

"This is a clipping from the Albany Herald, Albany, Georgia, of April 8, 1927. This is a case where two white boys in the city of Albany assaulted and committed rape on a poor little defenseless colored girl. The offense was so bold and daring they had to find them guilty, but because it was a case of a 16-year-old colored girl and two whites, 17 and 19 years of age, it was called in court a 'misdemeanor' on the part of the boys and they were practically turned scot free.

"Rev. ——."

The Independent inquired as follows:

"Rev. ——

"My Dear Sir:

"I thank you for the enclosed clipping, and your kindness in sending it to me. Are you correct about the age of the boys, and do you know whether the indictment was for rape or assault with intent to rape?

"Very cordially,

"B. J. DAVIS,

"Editor."

The Independent received the following reply:

"Dear Mr. Editor:

"Yours of the 11th instant seeking to know the correctness of the statement sent you with a clipping of the trial of two white boys who attacked a defenseless colored girl in Albany, Georgia, is before me.

"Replying, wish to say the clipping does not give the correct statement as to the age of the boys as is evidenced by all who know them. It is believed their ages are between 17 and 20 years.

"The indictment was for rape. They were caught in the very act by a policeman in broad daylight in the cotton mill section. The father of the girl was made to issue the warrant by a county officer. The father was afraid to do so until assured protection by the officers. "Rev. ——."

These boys were convicted of a capital offense. The penalty for which is death; yet the jury recommended that the crime be treated as a misdemeanor, and in consequence of which the judge gave them twelve months on the gang and six months in jail, and took occasion to advise these criminals that after six months they could serve the balance of their terms on probation. If two Negroes had raped a white girl they would have been lynched in short order. But such laxity on the part of courts in dealing with white criminals when the Negro is involved, in the end, will do more to grow up a crop of confirmed white criminals than it will do the Negro victims of white lust harm.

The growing tendency of white criminals to crowd the Negro out of the chain gang in the South is telling the story.

THREE MEN SOUGHT FOR ATTACK ON GIRL

Commerce, Ga., November 12.—(Special.)—Search was being made throughout this section today for three white men who are said to have kidnaped and assaulted a 14-year-old girl on the outskirts of Commerce at 9:30 o'clock last night. No clue to the identity of the men has been obtained.

The victim of the attack lives in Toccoa and is visiting an uncle here and in company with the uncle and his daughter attended a local show last night. The girl complained of having a severe headache and told her companion that she would return home alone, the distance being only a few hundred yards.

According to the story told officers by the girl, as she was proceeding down one of the principal streets here toward the home of her uncle, a closed car drove up and stopped and three young men flung the doors open, grabbed her and at the same time placed a handkerchief saturated with chloroform over her face, placed her in the car and carried her to the outskirts of the city to an isolated spot and assaulted her. She said none of the men was known to her.

The screams of the girl alarmed the neighborhood and she was brought into the city and given medical attention. She is at the home of her uncle, in a highly nervous condition, it is said.

The board of commissioners of Jackson county today offered $500 reward and the city of Commerce offered a reward of $200 for the arrest of the men wanted in the case. Governor Hardman is also expected to offer a reward for the state.

The girl's parents formerly lived near Commerce and the girl bears an excellent reputation, it is said here.

Lynchings - 1927
Rape by Whites

Illinois

2574

SEEK WHITE ATTACKER OF 13-YEAR-OLD SCHOOL GIRL

EVANSTON, Ill., Feb. 2.—Police are searching for a white moron, who last week lured a 13-year-old school girl from school and attacked her. Through a paper in the possession of the child the police were given a clue to the perpetrator of the crime.

Clarence Lowitz, 28, publisher, is being sought as the girl's attacker. His father, Herman Lowitz, was arrested and released under a $5,000 bail on a charge of shielding his son after the latter confessed to the crime.

Mob Menaces Man Nabbed on Little Girls' Charges

Surrounded by an angry crowd, Max Bauer, 52 years old, of 434 South Halsted street, was led to the West North avenue police station yesterday by two detectives who had arrested him in the Oakley theater, 2320 West Chicago avenue, on a charge of annoying three little girls. The children, becoming frightened at his actions, had run out of the theater and told Mabel Derby, organist in theater, signed the complaint against Bauer.

PAROLED FORGER SAVED FROM MOB AFTER ASSAULT

(By Leased Wire to The Constitution and The Chicago Tribune.)

Chicago, Ill., June 2.—Saved from a mob by Oak Park police, Frank Burden, 32, an electrician, today was held for the authorities at Lansing, Mich., where he is wanted on a charge of violating his parole.

He was released on probation after being sentenced to prison for six months for forgery, according to police records. Burden was captured after he had eluded a posse of more than 100 men armed with golf clubs and sticks.

Burden is charged with luring a 9-year-old girl to a golf course and with attempting to attack her. The child's screams frightened him away and started the hunt for him.

SAYS VERDICT IS DISGRACE TO FAIRNESS

Rebukes Jurors Who Heard Evidence

Aroused over the actions of a jury in returning a guilty verdict and the minimum penalty of one year in the penitentiary against Sam Gold, a 19-year-old white youth, convicted of criminally assaulting last April Miss Annie May Watts, 1211 S. Sangamon St., a 16-year-old schoolgirl, Judge Harry B. Miller of the criminal court bitterly flayed the jurors and granted Assistant State's Attorneys Charles S. Dougherty and Wayland C. Brooks' request for a new trial.

The close of Gold's trial last Friday evening reached a dramatic climax when Prosecutor Dougherty screamed his indignation at the jury's finding. "It's a disgrace! I ask for a new trial. I wish a hoodlum like Gold would attack some of your daughters!" the prosecutor shouted to the jurors. In his closing argument to the jury he had demanded the maximum penalty of life in prison for Gold's crime.

"Travesty on Justice"

"It's a travesty on justice," Judge Miller cried angrily. "I cannot understand how you reached such a verdict," he told the jurors. "Such a crime as this is going to be too common and when the criminal is caught and found guilty he deserves punishment and no less." Judge Miller added as he granted the motion for a new trial.

He declared he agreed with the prosecutor's assertion that "the jurors should be ashamed to fix the minimum penalty if they believe this man committeed the vicious crime with which he is charged."

In the course of the trial, Judge Miller halted defense counsel, L. L. Gould, in his argument to the jury and rebuked him for stating that citizens of the Race on the West and South sides were immoral.

"Mr. Gould, you are maligning the Colored people as a whole. What you say is not true and you must stop it," the court warned.

Miss Watts, the foster daughter of Mrs. Elizabeth Watts, accused him of being one of two men who forced her into a dark hallway at 12th St. and Blue Island Ave., and attacked her. Hyman Seigel, 1349 W. 13th St., wanted for robbery and for whom the police were searching, was named as the other man.

Was Called In

Gold said Seigel called him as he was passing in an auto with four other men, saying he had a "broad in the hallway." Gold went inside, he said, but denied attacking the girl. He was caught fleeing from the scene by Sgt. Frank O'Neal and a detective bureau squad which had been touring the district in search of Seigel, whom they had just arrested. Miss Watts failed to recognize him, but positively identified Gold as her attacker. Seigel is now in prison on a robbery charge.

When captured, Gold told Sgt. O'Neal, according to the policeman, that "I have just attacked a 'shine broad' and I wanted to get away." Gold later repudiated his statement and declared he was taking the rap for another, Sgt. O'Neal said.

Gold has been at liberty under a $2,500 bond. At the close of his trial he was ordered into custody and his bond raised to $5,000 by Judge Miller. Monday the court transferred the case to Chief Justice William V Brothers for reassignment.

Lynchings-1927
Rape by Whites.

Kansas.

2569

MAN AND GIRL HELD WITH BAIL $20,000

Are Accused In Connection With Assault Which Precipitated Race Rioting

COFFEYVILLE, KAS., May 30—(AP)—A white man and a white girl were under arrest tonight in connection with an assault case here the night of March 17, which precipitated race roiting and demands of a white mob for the life of a negro suspect who at the time was held in the city jail.

Ira Kennedy of Wichita, former motor car salesman here, and Julia Mooney, Coffeyville girl, who was to have received her highschool diploma tonight, were in jail at Independence, the county seat, with bonds fixed at $20,000 each.

Kennedy is charged with having assaulted Margaret Akers, local high school girl and Miss Mooney with having been accessory before the fact.

County authorities indicated other arrests would be made.

Miss Akers and Miss Mooney, reported that three men entered the room in which they were sleeping the night of March 17 and assaulted them. They described the assailants as negroes, but said they were unable to identify the men due to the darkness.

Three negroes were arrested for investigation after bloodhounds had been put on the trail, but two of the men were released. A third was held and a white mob stormed and stoned the jail and city hall in an effort to seize the negro. Four or five persons were wounded in the ensuing rioting before national guardsmen restored order and instituted military rule. The negro subsequently was freed.

A later story told by Miss Akers concerning the visit to the house of the assailants is understood to have resulted in the filing of charges against Kennedy and Miss Mooney.

County authorities charge that the Mooney girl connived with the assailants and that the Akers girl was an innocent victim.

Kennedy, who has a wife and four small children, denied the charges, declaring he was in Wichita the night of March 17. His wife corroborated his statement and said he was at the home of her mother at Augusta, Kas., that night.

Mrs. Kennedy explained that she and her husband had occupied the house in which the attack occurred and that Miss Mooney was a roomer. Miss Akers, the younger of the girls often spent the night with her friend, Mrs. Kennedy said.

FOR RACE RIOT IN COFFEYVILLE

White Girl, White Man In Jail; Bonds Fixed, $20,000 Each

Coffeyville, Kans., June 1.—(Special)—A white man and a white girl are under arrest in connection with an assault case here the night of March 17th, which precipitated a race riot and demands of a white mob for the life of an innocent colored man.

Ira Kennedy, of Wichita, and Juli Mooney, Coffeyville girl, who was to have received her high school diploma this week, are in jail at Independence, Kans., with bonds fixed at $20,000 each. Kennedy is charged with having assaulted Margaret Akers, local high school girls, and Miss Mooney with having been an accessory before the fact.

Other Arrests To Be Made

Colored citizens became to enraged at the false charges hurled against them that the state authorities decided to investigate the affair at once. Riots were threatened, and only the timely arrival of the militia prevented more of them. The entire Negro section has been guarded night and day to prevent any further outbreaks.

To-day, County authorities indicated that other arrests would be made. The sheriff, when interviewed, said, "It is a shame that all of this trouble was started by these ignorant and smart girls."

The Akers and Mooney girls reported that three colored men entered their room the night of March 17th, and assaulted them. The colored men were arrested after bloodhounds had been put on the trail, but two were released. A mob stormed the jail in an effort to seize the other man, who was subsequently freed.

County officials charge that the Mooney girl connived with the assailants and that the Akers girl was an innocent victim. Kennedy, who has a wife and four small children, denied the charges. His wife corroborated his statement.

Shatter Windows In City Hall

At the time of the riot every window in the city hall was shattered by stones, hurled by a mob of more than a thousand whites. Tear gas, employed against the rioters by the sheriff and specially commissioned deputies, accomplished nothing more than to enrage the mob.

Women Ordered From Streets

Women and children were ordered from the streets by the military force. Two of the three Negro prisoners were smuggled out of jail and away from town after they had proven satisfactory alibis.

Governor Panten ordered the Coffeyville guard into action and the city was placed under martial law.

Then the mob started for the colored section of the city with the intention of slaughtering the residents and burning down houses. At the approach of the whites, a group of Negroes opened fire, wounding two.

Guard Breaks Up Mob

Arrival of the Coffeyville guard unit broke up the mob and drove it toward the center of town. It reformed at the city hall, however and was soon threatening to destroy that building. The white people were forced to retreat after three of their number had been destroyed.

Curtis Smith, the man sought by the mob, was released, after the girls were unable to identify him.

by a mob on the city jail in an attempt to lych a Race suspect who had been arrested. State troops finally restored order.

Miss Akers gave her testimony in the preliminary hearing of Kennedy, who formerly lived at Coffeyville, on a statutory charge and of Miss Mooney on a charge of being an accessory before the fact.

Blames Companion

The witness said Miss Mooney's mother urged her to tell the story about being attacked by members of our group. She added that she had feared Kennedy might kill her if she named him.

Miss Akers refused to say whom she suspected as Kennedy's accomplices.

Roomed With Family

The attack took place in a house in Coffeyville which Kennedy had occupied. Miss Mooney roomed with Kennedy and his wife, who have three children. Miss Akers was a close friend of Miss Mooney, and often spent the night with her. The girls declared they were alone in the house when three men entered late in the dark and attacked them.

Kennedy has asserted he was in Wichita on the night of the assault. His wife and children were visiting in another Kansas city at the time.

Miss Mooney is charged with having conspired with the assailants.

Girl Admits Attack Was By Three Whites

High School Girl, Who Blamed Race Men, Now Names Landlord; Afraid to Tell

Independence, Kan., June 24.—Ira Kennedy, Wichita, Kans., motor car salesman, was identified in court here on June 17 by Miss Margaret Akers, high school girl, as one of the three white men who attacked her and Miss Julia Mooney on the night of March 17 at Coffeyville, Kans.

Led to Riot

The two girls first told authorities they had been attacked by two Race men, leading to a race riot the night of March 18 at Coffeyville, in which four were wounded and an assault

WHITES HELD FOR ATTACK ON GIRLS LAID TO NEGROES

Girl Is Held On a Charge Of Inciting a Riot With Assault Hoax. Charges Police Used Third Degree

FATHER OF 4 CHILDREN ARRESTED AS ATTACKER

Both Are Held In Jail In Default Of $40,000 Bails. Girl Said To Have Been Victim of Plot

(Special to the St. Louis Argus)—COFFEYVILLE, Kan., June 1.—Determination of colored citizens of Coffeyville, Kansas, as they said in a statement through their own representative, to clear the race of a guilt placed upon its members of a crime for which they are reasonably sure they are not responsible," resulted in the arrest of a white girl and a white man here Monday. The former was held on a charge of being accessory and the latter on a charge of being perpetrator of an attack upon a 17-year-old white girl which crime was charged to colored Americans. "The mob violence, arrests, damaging publicity and other abuses heaped upon colored Coffeyvillians, as well as the detrimental effects on all colored Americans that grew out of the accusation placed on Negroes, will certainly all be revealed to have been gross injustice," said the representative of the colored citizens following the arrests.

Married Man Arrested.

The white girl being held is Julia Mooney, 19-year-old room-mate of Margaret Akers, the girl who was attacked, on the night of the crime; the white man Ira Kennedy, 30-year-old Wichita, Kansas automobile salesman—a married man with four children. The girl alleged Tuesday night the police used third degree methods in an attempt to get her to change her original story in which she accused three "Negroes" of assaulting her and her companion in their bed-room on the morning of March 17. Kennedy protests he was not in Coffeyville the night specified in the charge against him. Both have employed attorneys to defend them. They were still in jail Wednesday in default of $40,000 bonds.

Suits Filed.

The original charge of the girls against three strange "Negroes" led to race-rioting March 18, in which three colored persons were seriously injured and much property damage done in the colored section of the city. Suits for $35,000 damages have already been filed by three colored persons who were injured by members of the mob, Herchel Ford and Napoleon Anderson, asking $10,000 each, and Gus Hughes asking $15,000.

Story Leads to Riot.

The first report spread in Coffeyville, was that the two girls, who are both students at the Coffeyville high school, sleeping alone in a house here were attacked by three "Negroes", who gained admission through a window. Next day the city and surrounding country were alive with angry whites, mad for revenge on the attackers of their women. Negroes were pursued to their homes, and attempts made to storm the jail where three suspects were being held. Hardware stores were broken into and arms secured by the whites who attacked the colored district of the city after their efforts to storm the jail had been frustrated. A number of lynchings were perhaps only prevented by the brave stand of the colored citizens in fighting back the invaders and the timely arrival of national guard detachments. Only after the establishment of martial law was there any semblance of quiet. Efforts, however, were made to frighten colored students into staying away from the mixed school.

Girl Joins Party

With the failure of the girls to identify any of the colored suspects brought before them, and facts revealed by colored investigators of the crime, strong evidence was established that Negroes did not commit the deed.

Then came reports that white men, and not Negroes, were responsible for the trouble.

It was told to authorities that Margaret Akers had said she was a guest that night of Julia Mooney and that the story about the Negroes had been made up after white men had been admitted to the house by the Mooney girl.

The younger girl was reported to have protested against the men visiting them and to have been persuaded by the older girl to join them in revelry.

The next day the story about the Negroes was told.

It is understood the authorities will make the charge that the older girl aided the white men in mistreating the younger girl.

Demand Prosecution.

For several weeks after the race trouble, which followed spread of the first story, it was whispered about Coffeyville that white men had been implicated in the affair The fact that some of the men mentioned were married caused the scandal to be discussed even more.

A minister announced one Sunday that the superintendent of the Sunday school would make some revelations concerning the affair in a talk the following Sunday. But when the next Sunday came, not a word was said publicly.

Then a group of candidates for city offices announced they were running for election on a promise to investigate and prosecute the guilty if they could be identified.

The group was elected. The warrants, on which the arrests were made Monday were sworn out by Walter S. Keith, city attorney.

Bonds of $20,000 are asked for each of the two prisoners.

The Mooney girl is a member of this year's graduating class of the Coffeyville high school and was to have received her diploma with her classmates in commencement exercises tonight. The Akers girl is a member of a lower class of the high school.

Lynchings - 1927
Rape by Whites.

Kentucky.

2567

HOLD WHITE FOR ATTACK 18-YEAR-OLD RACE GIRL

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Feb. 23—Chas. Falone, 26-year-old white man was indicted of criminal assault by a grand jury Friday in connection with his brutal attack upon Miss Alberta Hyde, pretty 18-year-old colored girl Saturday night February 12.

Miss Hyde, who appeared on the witness stand with her face showing signs of the rough treatment that she received at the hands of the moron, told of the vicious attack. She stated that she was on her way home, when she was attacked by the man and dragged to the canal near 26th street, where she made desparate efforts to fight him off. She was stripped of her clothing and badly beaten by her attacker, before an officer heard her screams and came to her rescue. The crime was called one of the most brutal that has occurred in this city in a long time.

Indict White Man for Attack On Colored Girl

Louisville, March 8.—Charles Falone, white, has been indicted for rape of Miss Alberta Howard, 19. Last Friday the grand jury brought in a true bill against Falone. The penalty for such a crime is death.

Officers who arrested the prisoner and caught him in the act of assaulting the young woman were bitter in their denunciation of him for the brutal outrage. The young woman's face was a mass of bruises and bites. Her ear, cheeks and lips were bitten during her struggles.

Colored citizens say they are anxious to see the culprit punished, but are willing to wait on the courts for action. Various organizations that have taken an interest in the case will make an effort to have a just verdict rendered.

BESTIAL WHITE BEATS, RAPES NEGRO GIRL, 18

Young Girl Choked, Bitten and Gnawed as She Fights Assailant—Crime One of the Most Revolting on Record

(From The Louisville Leader, Feb. 19.)

What is next in crime? This writer would like to know. There has been so many terrible crimes, some of a kind so hard to believe, that to say any crime committed just yesterday or today is the worst we have ever seen, seems like stretching the blanket. But that the assult upon Alberta Hyde, an 18-year-old colored girl, by Charles Falone, a white man in his twenties, last Saturday night, was one of the most cold-blooded, brutal and heart-rending known to this community, is concurred in by several members of the third district of the police department and agreeing with arresting officer Mike Lyons, Captain Parr says it was the worst he ever saw.

Miss Hyde, who lives at 2510 Tyler avenue, has been in Louisville a little more than six months. She came from Nashville, Tenn., with another young woman, Miss Stella Rogers, who lives at 2811 Lytle street. She was on her way from the home of Miss Rogers to her own home at 10:30 Saturday night when she found that she was being followed by a white man at 26th and Portland.

She at once became frightened and turned to go another way to reach her destination, when she found that the white man was upon her. When she attempted to get away, according to her story, she was caught by the arm. She attempted to fight loose, but the man was a big fellow and much stronger. She fought, however, until she was exhausted and helpless. She was dragged to the canal near 26th street, when he then attempted to rape her. With renewed strength she made her last stand to save herself from the heinous attack, but 'twas feeble and of no avail.

She fought the man as few women can, leaving her marks on him, but he won after choking and beating her head into a pulp twice its actual size. One of her eyes was closed, her lips and jaws bitten and gnawed until her face was a sight of cuts and blood. She was stripped of her clothing and thrown in the mire and mud of the canal and then assaulted. It was about 12:30 when her continuous screams attracted the attention of Officer Lyons and Sergeant Shouse, who found her sitting in the mud with practically nothing on. She, with the white rapist, was arrested, but she was dismissed when she appeared in police court Monday morning. She had to be helped to the witness stand. After dismissal she was carried to the city hospital, where she is now being treated. She was in terrible pain and a pitiful sight when seen by the writer Wednesday afternoon. She is from a good family, is intelligent and has a good position with a white family on Portland avenue. Her relatives are in Nashville, but hundreds of colored and white people in Portland and over the city are interested in her case.

When arranged before Judge Dailey last Monday morning, Falone, who is said to have a bad reputation, having just completed a sentence, began to say that he was attacked by the girl and a "nigger," when he was cut short and bound over to the Grand Jury without bail. He will be arraigned before the Grand Jury Friday morning. The police and superior officials of the third district showed the writer every courtesy when he attempted to make investigation last Tuesday night. To a man they said that it was one of the worst crimes they had ever seen and that Falone should pay the full penalty. He was not drunk.

Charles Falone Held Without Bail For Attack On Colored Girl

Alberta Howard Makes Game Fight For Her Honor

White Rapers Deaf, Dmub and Blind

What Third District . ieclare is the most brutal and he s crime in their knowledge was petrated Saturday night down i Portland when a white man dragg Colored girl through 27th St. an Portland Ave. down toward the canal and brutally assaulted her 9-27

The man, Charles Falone, a big husky fellow, is alleged to have followed the girl three or four blocks until she reached a dark spot when he stole upon and dragged her off the street upon dark roadway.

The girl, Alberta Howard, fought with all her might and screamed for help. Proof that she did fight was evidence in the many scratches on Falone's face and the fact that when rescued by a policeman her clothes were torn off her and she was nearly naked. The girl's face is a mass of ruises where the brutal Falone struck and bit her. The man bit her on the cheeks, the lips and the ear in a ferocious inhuman manner. And when in response to her screams Officer Mike Lyons responded he found the outraged girl weak and prostrate with the fiendish assaulter over her.

The officer had to draw his gun to make the man desist.

Miss Howard is an orphan girl who came here from Nashville six months ago to work. She lives at 2515 High Street with friends and works in Portland. She was on her way home when attacked.

Falone is a son of a former policeman and is said to have just been released from prison where he had been sent on a warrant taken out by his mother.

In Police Court Monday the girl had to be helped in, so badly injured was she. She told her story to Judge Eugene Daily as reported above. Falone tried to fall back on the old "nigger stuff" and said the girl and a "nigger man" tried to rob him. Judge Laily cut him short and ordered him to the Grand Jury without bail.

Officer Lyons, Capt. Parr and other policemen of the Third District were bitter in their denounciation of Falone and used pretty strong language regarding him.

The girl was taken to the City Hospital where a representative of The Louisville News visited her Wednesday.

She is a pitiful sight and looking

at her and hearing her makes one's blood boil.

But one does not forget The Law. Let the Law Act. All that is asked is that the Law be applied to this man in the same manner it is applied to Black men charged with the same crime.

Two Negroes, about whose guilt can be found some doubt in the minds of laymen, are sentenced to die at Madisonville. They are not charged with the brutality and unhuman acts of this case.

Negroes will again watch Kentucky Justice!

And say did you people who will not take a Negro paper and who try to avoid paying for it—Did you see anything of this case in your beloved White paper?

Had this been a Black Man and the victim a white girl, the white papers would have shaken Louisville with their headlines.

Why were they silent about this? Negroes will not know a thing about this inhuman, brutal crime until they read it in a Negro paper.

What's the Answer? Go ahead, You Know It.

The West End Civic Club and the N. A. A. C. P. will back Miss Howard in this case and try to get justice for her.

Ky. Crowd Beats White Rapist

LEXINGTON, KY. — James Perkins, 54, white, narrowly escaped with his life, when a crowd of 15 white and colored men are said to have caught him attempting to criminally assault a six year old race girl here, Thursday.

Police rescued the man and hurried him to the police station, where he gave his name as James Perkins and was docketed on a charge of detaining a female and being drunk. Although examination showed that the child escaped unharmed, the opinion is that a more serious charge should be placed against the would-be assaulter.

A MISTAKE IN HEADLINES

Last week in a report of the Falone attack on a Colored girl one headline read: "White Rapers Deaf, Dumb And Blind." It should have read "White Papers Deaf, Dumb and Blind," meaning thereby that as far as this case in which a white man was arrested for alleged rape of a Colored girl, the daily papers saw no evil, heard no evil, spoke no evil.

Our intention was to show that Colored citizens will have to depend on their own Race papers and to further show the disrespect and contempt white papers have for their thousands of Negr oreaders.

No imagination is necessary to picture either of the white papers play up of this outrage, had the victim been a white girl and her assailant a black man. But in the case as it is, the daily papers have not said a word.

Please read the column headed "Comments on Business" and learn from a man, not an editor what the Negro paper means to the Negro people.

FIFTH DISTRICT COLORED DEMOCRATS GIVE CHECK TO N. A. A. C. P. TO PROSECUTE GIRL'S ASSAILANT

Officers Say They May Differ In Politics But They Are Race Men Just The Same.

The case in which one Falone, white, is alleged to have assaulted a Colored girl aroused the Colored pople of Louisville as they have seldom been aroused. This, despite the fact not a white paper said a words about the outrage and only two Negro papers carried the facts.

But it proved that in the basic, fundamental things Negroes can get together. In other words when a Negro is mistreated, especially a Negro woman, most Negroes are quick to resent it.

In the case of this poor, defenseless and almost homeless girl, the people have been worked up to a high pitch.

The N. A. A. C. P. first in this, as it is first in everything that affects the Negro, has taken an active part seeking to see that the assailant of the girl is punished and to show to other brutal men, white or black, that Colored girls and women will be defended. So the N. A. A. C. P. employed Mr. Charles Hall, Colored Attorney, to associate with the Commonwealth's Attorney in the prosecution of the case Mr. Hall was not employed to prosecute the case nor was any effort intended to take the case from the hands of the regular officers, whose business as well as duty is to prosecute such cases. Mr. Hall wa merely employed by the N. A. A. C. P. at a nominal fee to assist the prosecuting attorney. Somehow the rumor got abroad that the N. A. A. C. P. was taking the case out of the hands of the Commonwealth Attorney's office and was raising funds to employ an outside attorney Such is not the case, according to the President, Mr. G. P. Hughes, who gave the facts as stated above.

Thinking the rumors were true that the N. A. A. C. P. was raising money to prosecute this case, the 5th District Colored Democratic Club sent a check to the Association.

The check was presented by Mr. Alex Morris ,president and a committee including Mr. Jomes Murphy and others.

Mr. Morris said, "This check proves that our organization is for the Negro first. We support the Democratic ticket because the Republican party does not treat the Negro with any consideration or respect. If the Democrats get in and do not treat the Negro right we will fight them as hard as we would anybody else. What the Negroes have to learn is that whether we call ourselves Republicans, Democrats, Socialists or what-nots, we are Negroes first. Therefore when we learned that the N. A. A. C. P. was defending this Negro girl who was assaulted by a white man, being Race men before we were Democrats or Republicans, we sent our check to hlp. Some Negroes may criticize us for having a Colored Democratic Club, bnt we are proving by this check, we are for the Race first and I'll bet you have not received any check from all these so-called Republican clubs."

Mr. Morris is right, the N. A. A. C. P has received no money from any club, Republican Social, fraternal, church nor any kind. The trial of Falone comes up Wednesday, March 23 in Criminal Court. He has been indicted for rape. Police officers who arrested him say his is the worst crime ever to come to their notice.

Prosecutors Lawton, Otte and Logan have proven they will prosecute criminals. There is no reason to fear they will not do their whole duty in this case, simply because Falone is white and his victim a black girl.

KENTUCKY FREES WHITE RAPIST UNDER BOND

LEXINGTON, KY. — Following testimony given by a six year old race girl, James Perkins, white, 54, was held under $10,000 bond and formally charged with attempt to rape, Saturday.

Perkins, who narrowly escaped being summarily punished by a crowd of white and colored people, was accused of abusing the girl, whom he met on her way home from a store. The rape case has been substantiated by testimony of two white boys and a physician.

Recently, two colored men were hanged in Kentucky, for a similar offense, and the case of Perkins is being watched with interest.

BLACKS FACE BEFORE ATTACKING WHITE GIRL

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Mar. 23.—An eighteen year old white stenographer Edna Dones, was rescued by her family from a soot-blackened white man who attempted to attack her Sunday night near her home. The girl at first declared that a Negro had attacked her, but when brought into the light it was discovered that her face and hands were covered with smoot which had rubbed off her assailant during the attack. The girl said that the man grabbed her by the throat as she entered the garden of her home. Her screams attracted members of her family which caused the man to flee.

Kentucky Also Pu White Rapist on Trial

Louisville, Ky., April 1.—A packed house, with standing room at a premium, greeted the trial of Charles Falone (white), accused of raping Alberta Hoyt, [illegible] western part of the city last February.

The case was hard fought from start to finish and the closing speech of the prosecuting attorney, W. Clarke Otte, made the case one of the most sensational in the history of the criminal court. This case is being watched by the [illegible] the N. A. A. C. P. with Charles Hall, attorney-at-law, to represent the association. When, after a long argument, the case was given to the jury, who after many hours of deliberation failed to agree, were dismissed.

Lynchings- 1927
Rape by Whites.

Kentucky.

2568

OLD MAN HELD ON GIRL'S CHARGES

LEXINGTON, Ky., June 8—When arranged before Judge Joseph H. Bullock Saturday charged with committing a serious crime against a six-year-old colored girl, James Perkins, a 54-year old Caucasian, was held to await the action of the grand jury. The charge was amended from that of detaining a female against her will.

Perkins was nearly mobbed by a group of youths of both races after the little girl had been rescued from his clutches by two Caucasians. He was no longer in danger, however, when the police arrived on the scene.

There is much speculation as to whether the state will exact the extreme penalty of death for the crime, dismiss it or adjudge the man insane. A marked contrast was noted by authorities between this case and that of Bunyan and Fleming who were just suspects and nearly lost their lives before the state military force could quell the disorder.

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LIFE SENTENCE GIVEN MAN FOR GRAVE OFFENSE

Another Released On Small Bond After Being Charged With Similar Offense

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Mar. 23.—Two of the most striking cases which were remarkable from the standpoint of contrast ended here last week when Charles Thomas, aged 40, was found guilty of a statutory offense and sentenced to the penitentiary for life, the other man, John J. McClain, a Caucasian, accused of an offense still greater than that for which Thomas was convicted, was held under $1,500 bond to await the action of the grand jury.

Conduct Unprintable

McClain is a merchant policeman. It has been rumored from time to time that he had formed acquaintances with several women in the colored district. Officers who raided the place at 117 East Walnut street, learned conditions. When they took two girls 15 and 16 years of age respectively, to the station, they signed complaints against McClain.

Thomas Case

It was alleged that Thomas committed a statutory violation against a 7-year-old child on February 28. Mrs. Bertha Whedbee, policewoman, investigated the case and offered testimony which was instrumental in sending Thomas to prison for life, despite his attorney's effort to discredit the woman's story.

The two cases stood out, officials declared, in great contrast and differed only in racial identity.

Great excitement prevailed at 11th and Chestnut Streets Tuesday night, when a group of Colored men surrounded a white man alleged to have insulted a woman and just a spark of violence would have caused seroius trouble. But the white man begged so hard for protection and denied so vigorously he was the culprit that the husband of the offended woman urged the angry crowd to wait for the police—who when they came did nothing:

Mrs Lethia Grimes was returning from the Episcopal Church at 11th and Walnut Streets, to join her husband Mr. William Grimes, who was waiting for her at the Menelek Club. As she neared the corner of 11th and Chesthut, three white men sitting in a corner made advances to her by calling to her to come to the car. She ignored their calls and went on her way. This angered the men who then called her a number of vicious names. Mrs. Grimes ran to the door of a pool room near by and called to the men there to come to her aid. A number of men came out whereupon the men in the car left, but one was seen to get out and go in another pool-room.

Mrs. Grimes proceeded to the Club and told her husband who went back to the corner. Men who had seen the affair pointed out the white man who had left the car. Mrs. Grimes identified him as one of the men, who had hurled insulting epithets at her. Mr. Grimes grabbed the man and tried to pull him out on the street, the man begged all the time and denyihg he said anything. A Colored man with him interfered and declared the white man was not the one because he "came from a good family and would-not do anythihg like that." Somebody in the crowd thanked the Colored Friend by tapping him on the head with a black-jack. Then Mr. Grimes seeing serious trouble would develop if he himself hit the man, tried to quiet the crowd and waited for the police who had been called.

The officers came. They were very nice about it, but they didn't see what they could do since Mrs. Grimes did not have a warrant for the man and they said it was too late to get one then. They asked the man who he was and what he was doing down in this Colored neighborhood. He said he was J. J. Phillips, of Willow Ave. and hds come down to get a car he had loaned to his Colored friend and brother. The cops told him to move on, told Mrs. Grimes they were sorry she had no witnesses and 'twas too late to get a warrant, said goodbye to everybody and went on back uptown.

Mr. and Mrs. Grimes are highly respected citizens and stand for something in the community. Mr. Grimes is due credit for controlling himself and not trying to take the law in his own hands. Many in the crowd were irresponsibles, who would have delighted in beating Phillips to a pulp. But the action of the police will not encourage other Colored men to act like Mr. Grimes when their women folks are insulted like this. Many Colored women suffer these indigintie in silence rather than tell of them for fear their men folks will get in trouble.

But what about these police officers? Does anybody believe a white woman who points out a Black man or white one either, as having insulted or molested her would be told she had to get a warrant before they could arrest him?

Lynchings - 1927
Rape by Whites.

Maryland.

2532

MAN IS HELD FOR RAPE OF YOUNG WOMAN

Alfred Brooks, 320 N. Bruce St., was committed for the action of the grand jury by Judge Johannsen in Northwestern Court, this (Thursday) morning on a charge of rape preferred by Miss Maggie Cephas, of Raynor avenue. Bail was fixed at $5,000.

The alleged crime was committed in a thickly wooded section near Raynor avenue and Apple street on Wednesday afternoon. Charles Andrews, a workman, was attracted by the screams of the young woman. He chased Brooks and turned him over to a policeman. Mrs. Carrie Wright, a sister of Miss Cephas, said that the latter had been suffering from a mental attack for four years.

WHITE WOMAN EXPLAINS VISIT TO MAN'S HOME

"Sought Eggs," Says Eliz. Radcliffe Who Claims She Was Assaulted

LEWIS THOMAS GETS 15 YRS. AT ELKTON

Three Judges Sentence Prisoner Whom Kent Island Nearly Lynched

ELKTON, MD., (Staff Correspondence)—Following conflicting evidence given by Elizabeth Radcliffe, a white married woman, as to the motive of her visit to the home of Lewis Thomas, whom she charged with assaulting her March 12th, the latter was sentenced to 15 years in the Maryland Penitentiary by three judges sitting in the Criminal Court here Tuesday.

Near Linching

The case, which almost precipitated a lynching when Mrs. Radcliffe first made her charge, was taken from Queen Anne County to Elkton for trial and Thomas brought to Baltimore when Kent County whites made a demonstration of mob violence.

According to the first story told by Mrs. Radcliffe, Thomas assaulted her in his home where she had gone at his request to aid his sick wife. He was arrested and a charge of rape placed against him.

At the trial at Elkton this week, however, Mrs. Radcliffe changed her story, declaring that she had gone to Thomas' house to get some eggs. When she went into the house, she said, Thomas made advances and when she repulsed him he seized her and a struggle ensued. When asked directly by counsel for defense if Thomas succeeded in his attempt, she stated that she was not sure just what happened. She finally got free, she testified, and left the house in a disheveled condition.

Witnesses testified that she was seen coming from the house with her clothes disarranged. It was also brought out at the trial that the two families were on friendly terms, and often exchanged household necessities.

Declares Innocence

Thomas told a simple story. His wife was out and the woman came. Making no attempt to assault her, she left the house and immediately made an outcry. Witnesses for the defense, two of which were white, testified to his character and declared that he had a splendid reputation in the neighborhood.

The case was submitted to the judges without arguments, J. H. C. Legg of Centreville, and James F. Evans, of Elkton, both white, resting the defense upon testimony given. Verdict was held withheld until 10:-15 Tuesday morning.

Thomas' trial was orderly, no demonstrations such as followed his arrest being in evidence. He will be sent to the penitentiary the latter part of the week following the close of the December term of court.

Lynchings- 1927
Rape by Whites

2564

Minnesota.

EMPLOYER ASSAULTS GIRL MAID

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn., May 10. —(By A. N. P.)—Two years ago, Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Hall, came here from the south, bringing with them, Mary Lizzie Jones, a young colored girl, sixteen, and pretty, as maid of all work. Mary, who can neither read nor write, was to receive, she says, a salary of three dollars ($3) per week for doing the cooking, laundry, and caring for one child.

On account of her father's illness, Mrs. Hall returned south last summer, placing "Mary Lizzie" with another white family by the name of Fisk, who live at 1225 Hawthorne avenue. Here she was to work for her board and room, although she had never received a cent of the salary which the Halls had promised her. Mrs. Hall did not return from the south, but her husband who remained in St. Paul called frequently to see "Mary Lizzie" and take her riding. He explained that he had adopted her and wanted to see how she was getting along. Finally, he kept her out all night. She was assaulted. The case was brought to the attention of Miss W. Gertrude Brown, head resident of Phyllis Wheatley House, who investigated it. Hall was arrested and charged with carnal knowledge. He claimed that the girl was nineteen years old, but he is still in jail. Various social agencies and both the Minneapolis and St. Paul branches of the N. A. A. C. P., are interested in backing the case which comes up Monday.

THE TRAGEDY OF JIM CROW

Last week our newspapers flashed to the world news of another instance of Negro womanhood humiliated at the hand of a southern cracker. Fortunately for decency's sake the Fates ordained the incident to reach its climax on Minnesota soil, and since this great commonwealth can (except for an outburst in Duluth some years ago) still lay claim to being civilized, the guilty culprit will be punished by law.

The principles in the case are a colored girl 14 years of age, who can neither read nor write, and a white man who brought the girl here from the South to serve his wife in the capacity of maid. The male of the specie ran true to form and became intimate with the maid (at what tender age we know not, but the relation has existed for some time and she is now 14 and about to become a mother) who is a mere child, too ignorant or too afraid to resist his advances. When this infernal scoundrel was informed that the child would soon become the mother of his baby, he had the temerity to exclaim, "What of it, that nigger wench is 19 years old." As we said at first, this was in Minnesota, and you may have heard him hit the floor where he was knocked by a very athletic colored detective who promptly repeated the dose when the brute attempted to repeat the insult.

Four causes of this tragedy stand out pre-eminently: 1. Various kinds of Jim Crow laws, especially separate schooles. 2. "Recognized and established custom." 3. Anti-marriage laws. 4. The natural tendencies of white men (of the K. K. K. type) to descend or should we say ascend to the brute creation to satisfy their animal desires.

Negroes who advocate separate schools and other such Jim Crow projects should be looked on as a liability to the race rather than an asset. We don't mean that it is not good to get together but we do mean that so-called "separate but equal schools" is a myth. There is no such thing.

Established customs of Dixie are to oppress the Negro in every way and get his women.

Those who are so terribly opposed to mixed marriages that they want "anti" bills passed, etc., are short-sighted, don't think, and we venture to say that they are hypocrites.

As to the natural tendencies of this yellow cur we only have a cross section of Dixie laid bare under the microscope right before our eyes. He is the type who leaves his mulatto children all over the world, who during the days of American slavery raised his children with a slave woman and then in turn sold his own flesh and blood for money! He is the type who sits in legislative halls and rant about the purity of the Nordic race and is found the same night in a raided assignation house with colored women. Our opinion is that he is the type that no self-respecting member of the canine family would claim kin to. In other words, a regular southerner.

2564

SOUTHERNER HELD ON CHARGE OF CARNAL KNOWLEDGE GOES TO PRISON

Case Continued Three Times Finally Decided in Less Than Half Hour. Victory Attained by Persistent Work of Social Agencies and N. A. A. C. P. Branches.

The case of Wm. P. Hall came on for trial Thursday, the 31st day of March, 1927, at 10 o'clock, in the District Court, Ramsey County, at which time Hall pleaded guilty to the crime as charged in the information, charging him with having had carnal knowledge of a child under the age of 18. He was sentenced by the court to imprisonment at Stillwater according to law which carries with it a penalty of imprisonment up to seven years.

The history of the case shows facts typical of what frequently happens when colored girls are left in southern homes to the mercy of the head of the house.

Mary Lizzie Jones went to work for the Halls some two or three years back, and, according to the child's statement, this conduct on the part of Wm. P. Hall had continued many months, frequently in his own home, before the family came to Minnesota, and that she had been abused by him and threatened each time if she disclosed the circumstances.

Miss Brown Interviewed.

When a reporter from the Echo interviewed Miss W. Gertrude Brown, Head Resident of Phyllis Wheatley House, Minneapolis, and Mrs. Lulu Maxwell of the Family Welfare, who is responsible for obtaining the information leading up to the arrest of Hall, said that they wished to particularly thank the St. Paul and Minneapolis branches of the N. A. A. C. P., the churches and Women's Clubs and organizations who gave so generously of both time and money in the effort to see that justice was meted out and that Minnesota protects all womanhood, regardless of color.

Child's Age of Interest.

The particular issue in the case was the matter of the child's age, up until Mrs. Lizzie Smith, aunt of the child, was brought in court. It appeared that the Hall's statement with reference to her being over the age of 18 would be accepted but Mrs. Smith convinced the court that the child was under the age of 18, having kept a record of her own child's age who was born the succeeding August in the year 1913.

Police Active.

Miss Brown of Phyllis Wheatley House is particularly anxious for the people of the Twin Cities to know of the fair play and courtesy of the County Attorney's office; the untiring interest manifested on the part of the social service agencies of the Twin Cities and the attitude of the police department. It was brought out before the court that Detective James A. Mitchell of the St. Paul police department made the arrest, secured the confession from Hall and constantly kept in touch with the situation.

Aunt Furnishes Facts.

When the fact is known that the Aunt, Mrs. Lizzie Smith, came all the way from Atlanta without any money, leaving a father near death and a very sick child, depending entirely upon the goodwill of the people of Minnesota in seeing her back in order to give what protection she could to her niece ,one may get an idea of the extent of trouble to which those interested went to to insure the state's being able to convict Hall.

The story of the case would not be complete without a few of the sidelines incident to its successful conclusion. Repeated efforts were made, according to Miss Brown, on the part of friends and relatives of the Halls to intimidate the child to keep her from giving testimony by coming to the Settlement House and attempting to see her. A particular incident is noted in which a man who claimed

his name was G. A. Seawood and that he was from Georgia, and registered at the Ryan Hotel, St. Paul, came to the House, claimed he had come North for the purpose of offering what assistance he could to Mary Lizzie; that he merely wanted to get the facts in the case, and that, of course, although he was a friend of Hall, if he was guilty, wanted to see him punished; but he would like very much to talk with the girl and the aunt and get some matters straightened out. Needles to say, the girl was not in to him. After he had gone inquiry made at the Ryan Hotel disclosed no such person had registered there. Many similar incidents could be recounted which made constant supervision of the child necessary ever since Hall's arrest.

SOUTHERNS HOLD COLORED GIRL IN MINNEAPOLIS

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn.—By A. N. P.—Two years ago, Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Hall came here from the south, bringing with them, Mary Lizzie Jones, a young colored girl, sixteen, as maid of all work. Mary, who can neither read nor write, was to receive, she says, a salary of three dollars ($3.00) per week for doing the cooking, laundry and caring for one child.

On account of her father's illness, Mrs. Hall returned south last summer, placing "Mary Lizzie" with another white family by the name of Fisk, who live at 1925 Hawthorne Avenue. Here she was to work for her board and room, although she had never received a cent of the salary which the Halls had promised her. Mrs. Hall did not return from the south, but her husband who remained in St. Paul called frequently to see "Mary Lizzie" and take her riding. He explained that he had adopted her and wanted to see how she was getting a
Finally, he kept her out all night
was assaulted. The case was br
to the attention of Miss W. Ge
Brown, head resident of Phylis
ley House, who investigated it.
was arrested and charged with
knowledge. He claimed that

ineteen years old, but he is still
Various social agencies and
the Minneapolis and St. Paul
ns of the N. A. A. C. P. are in-
d in backing the case which
up Monday.

Southern White Man Convicted; Seduced Youth

Colored Girl of Tender Years Carried From Georgia to Minnesota by "Southern Gentleman"—Expose of His Carnal Relations with Black Girl Netted White Man Seven Years in State Penal Institution—N. A. A. C. P. Branches Big Factor in His Arrest and Conviction.

(By the Associated Negro Press.)

Minneapolis, Minn.—A case that has held the attention of the Middle West for the past two months has been that of William Hall (white) of Atlanta, Georgia, who was sentenced last week to the state penitentiary for a period of up to 7 years on the charge of having carnal knowledge of a 14-year-old colored girl, Mary Lizzie Jones. The girl was brought to Minneapolis by the Hall family in the capacity of nurse maid when they motored north last summer. The girl never received any compensation for her services during all of her stay with them.

The case was brought to the attention of the authorities through the social agencies of Minneapolis. Investigation disclosed several attacks had been made on the child by Hall, both in his own home and in a house of prostitution in St. Paul. The particular issue in the case was the matter of age, the Halls claiming Mary was over 18. Because of lack of opportunity for education (she had never attended school before coming to Minneapolis) she was unable to tell the number of months in a year or weeks in a month. The authorities were doubtful as to her age, although she told the court she recollected it was about three years ago when her mother left her with a friend, Mattie Jones, and that she was eleven years old then.

Realizing the indifference that usually accompanies the prosecution of a white man (especially a Southern white man) for any crime against a colored woman, Miss W. Gertrude Brown, head resident of Phyllis Wheatley Settlement House, Minneapolis, called a meeting of W. M. Smith and George W. Hamilton, presidents of the Minneapolis and St. Paul branches of the N. A. A. C. P., to discuss the method of procedure in the prosecution of Hall. After repeated efforts had been made without results to obtain evidence from Atlanta social agencies to establish the girl's age, Miss Brown was sent South. With only the name of a cousin of the child, and the postoffice, Miss Brown went on day and night without rest, letting nothing discourage her, bad roads, mud and clay, woods, still she persisted through twenty-seven miles of country south of Atlanta until she discovered an aunt, Mrs. Lizzie Smith. Miss Brown prevailed upon the aunt to come North with her as no evidence was available in the way of birth records, etc., that would have been acceptable in court. Mrs. Smith finally agreed to accompany Miss Brown, leaving a father near death and a very sick child. The aunt convinced the court her niece's age was fourteen this past January, because she (the aunt) has a child born the following August, 1913, who is now just past 13 years old).

Repeated efforts were made by visits to the Settlement House where the girl and aunt stayed on the part of friends and relatives of the Halls to intimidate them from giving testimony in the case. These incidents made constant supervision necessary ever since Hall's arrest.

Without the combined and intelligent efforts of the Minneapolis and St. Paul branches of the N. A. A. C. P., the fair play and courtesy of the county attorney's office, and the good judgment and untiring persistency of Miss Brown, the case could not have been brought to such a speedy close with justice meted out as it was deserved.

White Rapist Jailed; Attacked Young Girl

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has sent letters of thanks and appreciation to C. D. O'Brien Jr., County Attorney of Ramsey county, St. Paul, Minn., and to Judge Charles Bechoefer of the district court, for the fair and impartial trial as a result of which a white [illegible] jail for an attack upon a young girl.

The girl had been brought to St. Paul from Atlanta, Ga., as a nursemaid in the family of William P. Hall. The girl, who was under 18 years of age, testified that she had received no compensation for her services, and had been afraid to leave the family, having no money of her own, and that she had been afraid to tell of Hall's assaults because of his threats.

The St. Paul and Minneapolis Branches of the N. A. A. C. P. together with the head resident of Phyllis Wheatley House and other social agencies brought about prosecution and conviction of Hall under a law which carries with it a penalty of imprisonment up to seven years.

Lynchings-1927
Rape by Whites.

Mississippi.

2566

White Man Is Held For Rape

WAYNESBORO, Miss., Sept. 1.—(By A. N. P.)—John Bunch, a white man, 40 years old, was arrested by Sheriff Busby and locked in the county jail charged with criminally assaulting a 14-year-old girl, daughter of a farmer. The young girl was on the Laures-Waynesboro Highway about four miles from Waynesboro on the way to visit her aunt when it is alleged Bunch drove up on a motor truck and offered her a ride, stating he was going by the home of her aunt, but after driving only a short distance pulled her from the truck. It was several hours before she was able to make her escape and report to the family. He is being held without bail to await preliminary bail. There was no talk of lynching.

sires of these "brave and stalwart" troopers who were assigned to this region to protect life and property.

The Southern Red Cross division was informed of the death of the girl and asked to make an investigation, but refused to act. It was found that a report has been circulated by authorities at the camp that Magnolia was "drowned."

Little aid is being given our people here by the local Red Cross. This was pointed out recently when a group of Chinese merchants donated candies and toys to the amount of $1,000 for general distribution among the children here. The toys were given only to the whites.

GIRL OF 20 IN FLOOD AREA IS VICTIM OF SOLDIERS WHO WERE SENT TO PROTECT HER

Cleveland, Miss., May 20.—Twenty-year-old Magnolia Johnson lies buried today in an unmarked grave. Soldiers, sent to guard the city against looting, trampled her body beneath the soil with heavy army shoes. She was laid to rest at midnight with these semimilitary honors. No salute was fired. Only girls of Magnolia's color are buried at midnight in Mississippi by white men and nobody questions this strange form of hospitality. Mississippi, both black and white, understands.

The story of Magnolia's plight is told here in whispers. A Red Cross worker, sent up from Memphis to observe conditions here whispered it to a Defender reporter. She begged that the name be kept in secrecy. It goes like this:

Magnolia was taken by one of the soldiers to the main camp and placed in a tent. As evening came she was notified that she must serve as "hostess" to the soldiers that would call on her. Twenty visited her that night and following this procedure she was found dead. She was forced, it is said, to submit to the lustful de-

Lynchings - 1927
Rape by Whites.

Missouri

2565

White Man Rapes Child, 10 Years Old, But Gets Only 20 Years in Prison

A jury in Judge Allen C. Southern's court Tuesday night found George Heath, 40, a white married man guilty of criminal assault on his 10-year-old niece. Judge Southern sentenced Heath to twenty years in the penitentiary.

Heath was sentenced once before in 1915, to fifteen years in the penitentiary for attempting to attack a 14-year-old girl. He was charged in the case Tuesday under the habitual criminal act and if the jury had found him guilty under this act, he automatically would have been given the death penalty. But the jury did not convict him as an habitual criminal, simply finding him guilty of the attack and leaving his sentence to Judge Southern.

Judge Southern chose to sentence Heath, a man convicted once before of a similar crime, to only twenty years. It will be remembered that Judge Southern sentenced Cleo Williams, Negro, last week to hang on August 17 for attacking a white girl June 27. At that time Judge Southern refused to accept a plea of guilty from Williams and told him the court would show no mercy on such a plea. Three days before Williams was sentenced to hang, Albert Spaulding, a white man, was allowed to plea guilty to attempting to attack a 3-year-old baby and was given the minimum sentence of five years.

Herbert Health, 21, brother of George, is in jail charged with also attacking the little girl and another uncle, Clarence Woods, 51, is in jail with him, charged with attempting to attack her.

Lynchings - 1927
Rape by Whites.

Nebraska.

2556

FIVE WHITES ATTACK GIRL, 14, AND WOMAN

OMAHA, Neb., Sept. 28.—Every effort is being exerted by colored citizens here to bring to justice five whites who perpetrated a dastardly and fiendish attack upon Miss Pearl Irvin, 14 year old, and Mrs. Viola Wright, musicians.

Miss Irvin and Mrs. Wright were stopped by the men at 2 a. m. Friday morning, September 16, while they were going home from work. The men displayed stars and said they were officers and told the pair they were going to lock them up for being out so late. Placing them in an automobile they took them to a secluded park of the city where the young girl was attacked and efforts were made to force Mrs. Wright to perform degenerate perversions, but the screams of the younger girl, who managed to break away put the morons to flight. Police were informed but could find no trace of the assailants. Colored citizens are, however, demanding a thorough search for the attackers.

Lynchings- 1927
Rape by Whites

New York.

2557

Spaniard Tries to Rape White Girl

Intercepted, He Leaps to Death From Fifth Floor

Failing in his attempt to rape 16-year-old Emily Krattinger, white, yesterday morning, Alberto Cavero, 30, Spanish leaped to instant death from a fifth floor bathroom window at 101 West 118th street.

Cavero, a lodger in the Krattinger home, thought he and the girl were alone in the apartment, since Mrs. Krattinger is sick in a hospital. However, James Trophy, another lodger in the same apartment, had been laid off from work. It was he who ran to Emily's rescue when she screamed for help.

Fearing that he would be caught Cavero, a former captain in the Peruvian army, jumped. He had been in America only three months.

White Girl Insists That White Man Assaulted Her

Although Efforts Are Being Made To Lay The Crime On Negroes

New York, July 1—The trial of Ira Kennedy, the white man accused of the assault of which Negroes were at first said to be guilty and which brought about riotings in Coffeyville, Kans., is being pushed, according to Attorney Elisha Scott who was retained by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. Mr. Scott in his report says:

"I was in Court on Wednesday, June 22 and heard Marguerite Akers testify in substance and point her finger to Ira Kennedy, white man charged with rape and also to Julia Mooney, charged with being an accessory before the fact, and saying that Ira Kennedy assaulted her and that Negroes did not do it and that Julia Mooney had advanced the Negro theory and that Julia Mooney and her mother had insisted that she, Marguerite Akers, stick to the Negro theory."

Attorney Scott furthermore reports his belief that the indentification of Ira Kennedy by the girl, despite conflicting testimony offered by the local sheriff, will be sufficient to convict the white man.

FOUND IMBECILE ALONE, CARRIED HER TO WOODS

NEW YORK.—According to testimony, Brooks, who is a laborer, was working in the section of Raynor and Apple street, in the suburban section, when he stopped at the home of Mrs. Carrie Wright. He was admitted by Miss Cephus, who is said to be 22 years of age, but has the mentality of a child. Finding the young woman alone, Brooks is alleged to have carried her bodily from the house to a thickly-wooded section a short distance away and there criminally assaulted her.

Workman Gives Chase

Charles Anderson, another workman, hearing the screams of the girl, went to investigate and discovered the man as he was leaving the scene of the crime.

Anderson gave chase and overpowered him after a struggle. In the meantime, a number of white school children who had seen the man carrying the woman screaming toward the woods, notified a patrolman, who rushed to the scene. Upon his arrival Brooks was already in the firm grip of Anderson, who turned him over to the officer.

"The Burly White Brute"

Had the color of the rapist of the Columbus Circle section been reversed, a lynching would have occurred in New York City on Friday, July 16th. All the elements were present with that vital exception. The angry mother chased the guilty man for blocks with a great mob at her heels. When she collared him, his identification was complete and unquestioned, as he confessed later. No policeman was in sight. The countless trees of Central Park were nearby. Lynching would have been easy. His killing could have been at the hands of unknown persons with impunity. But the rapist was white. His 7-year-old victim was colored. The law took its course.

Lynchings-1927
Rape by Whites.

North Carolina.

2558

Irate Mothers Unite to Beat 60-Year-Old Moron

Lexington, N. C., March 11.--Well-authenticated reports here tell how a group of women, including the mothers of several small girls, gave a 60-year-old white man of a community adjacent to this a thorough lashing recently, with a tree substituting for the old-time whipping post.

The victim of the whipping is alleged to have admitted that he had shown undue familiarity toward several small girls of about or 10 years of age and was given his choice of facing a court under indictment or taking a whipping at the hands of the indignant group of women. He chose the latter.

The man is said to have been tied to a tree, and the women took turns in laying on with suitable instruments until they were satisfied with the punishment, although one of the chastisers is quoted as saying that she regretted her strength was not equal to her will in the matter.

TO DIE FOR ASSAULT ON CHILD

Henderson, N. C., May 31— Joe Andrews was convicted in Franklin County superior court late Wednesday, of having attacked the 3½ year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Stoues, of Franklin county several weeks ago and was sentenced by Judge Devine to be electrocuted on Friday, July 1st. The jury was out ten minutes.

Andrews was taken to State prison at Raleigh immediately. There was no military guard nor even extra deputy sheriffs on duty in or about the courthouse when the trial began this morning. Counsel for the condemned man set up a plea of feeble-mindedness.

Lynchings - 1927
Rape by Whites.

Pennsylvania.

2559

NEWSPAPERMAN FACES CHARGE OF EXTORTION

Editor Is Said to Be Frame-up Victim

Pittsburgh, Pa., April 29.—The arrest of Harry B. Webber, editor of the Pennsylvania Guard and newspaper correspondent, on extortion charges was caused here last week by E. D. Huston (white), one of the owners of the million dollar Green Taxicab company, which does a huge business among members of the Race here.

The arrest, declares Webber, followed a desire on the part of Huston and the other Green Cab owners to suppress a story of an alleged attack by E. D. Huston on two women he employed to clean his bachelor apartment on Shady Ave. a number of weeks ago.

The two women are Mrs. Mahalie Orr and Mrs. Mamie Johnson. They entered suit in the court of common pleas here last month, asking a total of $8,000 damages from Huston for the assault. Barton and Hamilton, attorneys who have handled the case, won it by default. Attorneys for Huston are attempting to reopen the judgment.

Publishes Story

Mr. Webber published the story of this assault case during the week of April 9. A week later, says Webber, he was called to Huston's office and walked into a trap set for him by a constable from Alderman J. J. Verona's office, whereby he was arrested on the extortion charge. During a conversation at the office, declares Webber, P. L. Huston, president of the concern, and E. D. Huston, the man found guilty, declared that they had shut up all sources of publicity among the Race in the city but Webber, and that they had called him out there to shut him up. P. L. Huston offered Webber $50 in cash, Webber says, and then as he was preparing to leave the office a constable who had been standing outside the door during the interview arrested him for extortion, exhibiting an illegal warrant.

At the constable's office, where reporters from every daily paper and from a local weekly had been called, says Webber, his bail was set at $5,000 with the object of sending him to jail for not raising it. Even though he had over this amount of bail on hand as well as an attorney, Webber says, he was railroaded on to jail, his $5,000 bond refused by Alderman J. J. Verona (white) because of a negligible technicality.

Webber occupied cell number 15X in the county jail from Saturday afternoon till Sunday noon.

Dodge Hearing

A hearing set at the alderman's office for Wednesday night was not held. Webber's case was delayed and finally postponed. E. D. Huston was not present. His lawyer said Huston was sick, and when the defense disproved this, he said Huston was out of town. But a person present stated that he had been with Huston up until the time set for the hearing.

While awaiting his own case, Webber interviewed the two women assaulted by Huston. They declared, he says, that Huston had insulted them even more than Webber had described.

Last week, says Webber, there was a mutual agreement among daily and weekly newspapers in Pittsburgh to refrain from publishing the story because of the evident frame-up that it was. The local weekly, he declares, agreed not to publish it, but ran in their national edition.

Lynchings - 1927
Rape by Whites.

South Carolina.

2560

SOUTH CAROLINA FURNISHES NEW OUTRAGE

Negro Sentenced to Life in Jail fo Defending His Two Daughters

New York, Dec. 31—The Nationa Association for the Advancement o Colored People, 69 Fifth Avenue, today made public details of a new outrage in the State of South Carolina which recently stirred the country with the lynching of a colored woman and two men at Aiken. The present case on which the N. A. A. C. P. has been working since September, concerns Jim Davis, a colored tenant farmer, 52 years old, living in Fairfield County, S. C., who shot and killed a white man, notorious for his shooting of Negroes, who had come to take the colored man's two young daughters. L. G. Southard, white attorney of Spartanburg, who helped defend the Lowman family in Aiken, on September 27 conferred on the case in the N. A. A. C. P. National office and is handling the conviction of the colored farmer. The N. A. A. C. P. on October 11, 1926, sent its check for $250 to cover the printing of the record and the other necessary costs incident to the appeal .rM. Southard telegraphed the appeal will be argued January 10, 1927. The facts in the case, as recited in the appeal to the State Supreme Court are as follows:

Jim Davis had never before been in trouble of any kind. He had two youthful daughters who had been clandestinely taken from his home, with another girl, by three Negro boys who kept the girls in Columbia and then Greenwood, returning them after some days to their home. The father received the girls on the statement of the boys that they were married, and that marriage license could be shown him.

The boys were working in a near- road camp gang constructing a ic highway. A week later, the boys planned to remove the girls the road camp broke up and ys were overheard asking a spirman, J. Austin Scott, the road ship ss, if he would help them as promised. One of the boys, it was reported to Jim Davis, exclaimed: "We will get our girls in the morning or raise hell and have a damned war at Jim Davis' house."

Informed of this, Jim Davis refused to let the girls go. He informed the boys they could talk to the girls from outside the house but he would not let them enter his house again, as no marriage license had been shown him and he did not propose to let his girls go to live in a road camp.

At this time Jim Davis' white landlord, G. E. Martin, passed in the road, and Jim Davis ran down to appeal to him for aid in persuading the white man, Scott, not to and the boys. The boys returned to the road camp and told Scott they could not get the girls. Scott then said he would get them. Scott took up a 38 calibre pistol, made sure it had 4 cartridges in it and on being told there were no more cartidges said: "This is enough to bring two or three back." He got in a truck with the colored boys and started for Jim Davis' house. Mr. Martin tried to dissuade Scott but found it useless.

The Jim Davis house was 637 feet back from the road. The truck carrying Scott and the two colored boys approached and turned into the private road. Jim Davis stood in his doorway, shotgun in hand. He warned the invaders not to enter his warned the invaders not to enter his place. The colored boys stopped but the white man, Scott, continued, opening the gate that led to Jim Davis' house, less than 17 feet from the front door. At this point Davis fired, killing the white man.

The record shows, according to the attorney, Mr. Southard, that Scott had killed two Negroes, that he had been in a shooting scrape in which the sheriff of the county had been killed.

Motion for change of venue for Jim Davis was denied, although feeling against him was tense and he was hunted for several days by bands of armed men sworn to kill him at sight. The appeal to the Supreme Court recites that not a single member of the Winnsboro bar dared defend Davis because of the fear of the powerful family of the white man who had been killed, also that testimoney showing the defendant's state of mind was not admitted. Mr. Southard in his letter to the N. A. A. C. P. states:

"If he had been a white man he would never have been convicted, or if both of the parties had been colorded, he would never have been convicted; or if the defendant had been a white man and it had been a colored, he would never havt been col the same circumstances . . . . . he would never have been convicted. The only thing that convicted him was the fact that he was colored."

S. C. GRANTS SECOND TRIAL TO MURDERER

Conviction in Lower Court Reversed

Charleston, S. C., April 8.—The supreme court of the state of South Carolina has reversed the conviction for murder of Jim Davis, who shot and killed a white road gang foreman, who had come to his house with the expressed intention of removing Davis" two daughters.

The reversal was procured through L. G. Southard, the white attorney of Spartanburg, S. C., who risked his life last fall to defend the Lowman family, three of whose members were later lynched. Mr. Southard has returned to South Carolina to arrange for a new trial for Jim Davis.

In his brief before the state supreme court Mr. Southard pointed out that there was intense excitement in Fairfield county, mobs hunting Jim Davis for several days after the shooting and threatening death on sight; that owing to the popularity and influence of the slain white man it had not been possible to procure any local attorney to defend Davis; that despite these facts the court denied a change of venue for the trial.

The state supreme court in reversing the conviction said: "The alleged facts set forth in the petition were indicative of an atmosphere strongly prejudicial to the defendant. . . . It appears also that the governor had reasons for thinking that the defendant would be unsafe in the Winnsboro jail and os detained him in the penitentiary practically up to the time of trial. That the defendant could not get paid local counsel at Winnsboro to represent him, strongly indicates the state of feeling in Fairfield county against him."

The state supreme court furthermore pointed out that a "dying declaration" of the slain white man had improperly been admitted as testimony, since the man was not at the time he made it in expectation of death.

TWO WHITE MEN ATTACK YOUNG COLORED GIRL

Fool Her Companion Out of Car and Drive Away Leaving Boy In the Road

BOTH MEN HELD IN JAIL WITHOUT BOND

Youth Runs Three Miles To Nearest Telephone To Call Police Officers

Rock Hill, S. C.—Charged with criminal assault upon a 16-year-old colored girl, R. E. Mickle, bus driver, and Frank Grant, automobile mechanic and relief fire truck driver, both white, were being held in jail here today without bond pending a preliminary hearing before Magistrate J. B. Swinnie next week. Grant is married and has several children. Both men deny that they assaulted the girl.

Boy Fooled

The prosecutrix declares that she and a male companion were picked up by Mickle and Grant on the pretense of taking them home. She said the car headed toward Chester and stopped several miles down the highway where her male companion was coaxed to get out and walk around the rear of the car. The white men are alleged to have then driven away leaving the colored boy on the roadside. She claims that under threats and show of a pistol she was attacked twice.

Ran 3 Miles

The boy ran and walked more than three miles to a telephone and notified officers. A drag net was thrown across the roads leading back to the city and the white men were arrested later in the night. The girl was in the automobile and told her story to officers.

Lynchings-1927

Rape by Whites

Tennessee.

2561

Convict White Man of Fiendish Crime

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Feb. 17.—(By A. N. P.)—W. A. Huddleston, a white man, was convicted on charges of having improper relations with his daughters and was sentenced to 21 years in prison. The charges were preferred by his three daughters, the oldest of whom was 13 and the youngest being seven.

TWO WHITE RAPISTS ARE JAILED AT NASHVILLE

NEW YORK, Sept. 12. — The Nashville, Tennessee, Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People through its president, J. A. Martin reports contributing $75 for the employment of a special attorney to prosecute two white men charged with brutally assaulting two colored women near Murfreesboro, Tenn. The trial resulted in a mistrial, 8 jurors being for conviction and 4 for acquittal, according to Mr. Martin, who states that the rapists are still in jail and their case is to come up again in October.

The white men, Elgin Lewis and Aubrey Payne, taxi drivers, are charged with trailing the two colored women in an automobile representing themselves as state police officers and "arresting" them on a country road and then committing brutal assaults upon them.

Both of the colored women victims of the attack are married

Lynchings- 1927

Texas.

2562

Rape by Whites.

HOLD TEX. WHITE FOR ASSAULTING THREE GIRLS

PORT ARTHUR, Tex., Mar. 23 — A lude and sordid crime involving a 45 years old white man was exposed here last week. The man is being held in jail here on statutory charges. Three small colored girls, 10, 12, and 13 years of age, are the complainants.

The little girls told officers that the white man charged had entice them away from school with candy and trinklets at different times and attacked them.

Lynchings - 1927
Rape by Whites.

Virginia.

2563

Six White Rapists Run Amuck At Norfolk, Va.

Colored Virginian and Wife Attacked By Nordic Hoodlums—Negroes Gave Shelter, Protection To Three White Girls, Objects of Rapists' Bestial Passions—Angered At Interference, Men Become Violent—Police Seeking Three Lily-White Assailants—No Lynching Bee Is Feared.

Norfolk, Va.—Three of the group of white men alleged to have forced their attentions upon three white girls Monday evening, on Broad Creek road, and then assaulted E. H. Harris, colored, and his wife, when they, upon the pleadings of the girls, sought to defend them from the forced attentions of these men, have been traced by city detectives and warrants have been issued for their arrest.

Mr. Harris, who lives with his family at 2611 Broad Creek road, sheltered the young women upon his premises when they sought safety there from the pursuit of the men, and refused the demands of the pursuers to enter the house and further molest the young ladies. For protecting the girls both he and his wife were attacked and severely assaulted by the assailants.

According to the version of the attack given by Mr. Harris to a Journal and Guide reporter, the girls ran to his house about eight o'clock, Monday night, asking that they be allowed to come in to escape the unwelcome advances of several white men, who were seeking to force them to get into their automobile.

Follow Girls To House

Soon after he had given them the protection of his home, Mr. Harris stated, a Ford touring car from a U-Drive-It Company drove up. A man whom Mr. Harris is positive he can identify got out of the car, approached, and demanded that he be allowed to talk to the girls. Realizing the danger imminent to both himself and the girls, but brave enough to give them the aid they begged for, Mr. Harris refused the white men's demands, insisting that they leave at once.

Fight and Flee Scene

Following a heated argument, a fight started. Others of the party of men got out of the car and soon Harris had several to beat off at one time. Evidently the fight, although one-sided, got too hot for the ruffians, for they soon fled, leaving Mr. Harris with a bloody head. In the meantime, Mrs. Harris had sought to aid her husband and received several blows herself.

Neighbor Gets Car Number

During the mix-up, a neighbor ran out and took the number of the car, With this as a clue, the alert local detectives began their search. The car was traced to the concern from which it was rented. There the names of the men, who, according to the police, are sailors attached to a United States vessel, were ascertained. They are said to be Jesse Watson, Joe De Martinis and John Henry Warfel of the U. S. S. Vestal. Warrants have been sworn out and the accused men will be given over to civil authority as soon as the proper authority is obtained from naval officials. One of the men is said to have confessed to a part in the attack and furnished the police with other information.

9-17-27

Carries Marks of Fight

The three young women were walking along the road about dusk when a car of six or more white men drew up beside them, according to accounts reaching police headquarters. The men attempted to force the girls into the car. The girls went to their homes after the affair was reported to authorities.

Neither of them knew any of the white men. Mr. Harris, to whom the girls appealed, is suffering no serious after effects. He is engaged in the ice business.

RACE GIRL, 19, IS BRUTALLY MURDERED

ST. PAUL, Va.—The four white men, including John D. Whitlock, the colored man and one of the Negro men who were arrested in connection with the brutal slaying of Miss Ella May Young, 19, employed as a maid in a local hotel, have been released and one Negro, Tom Campbell, of Wise county, is being held on an indictment charging murder. Miss Young was slain sometime early Friday night last week and her brutally dealt-with form with life still in it, was found some hours later half way down a steep precipice on a lonely stretch of the State highway near Castelwood. Dying, she muttered an incoherent explanation implicating a colored man and a group of white men in the cause of her death.

It appears that she was forced by the Negro and the white men to go riding in a car with the whites. Later she was found in a dying condition. The officials investigating the case are positive that she was murdered and her form thrown down the bluff. There were two wounds on the head, either of which could have caused death.

The four white men suspected of luring the girl to her death were arrested and held in Russell county jail for a few days, but were later released after being arraigned before three magistrates representing Wise and Russell counties for the lack of evidence to indict. The colored girl also was released. Tom Campbell, Negro, however, was indicted for the murder of Miss Young. Campbell was held for the Russell county court without bail. John D. Whitlock, white, Henry Dickenson, colored and the others arrested in connection with the case were released.

VIRGINIA FARMER TRYS TO ASSUALT A COLORED GIRL

Herndon, Va., April 26.—On April 14, a 14-year-old colored girl named Dorothy Tasco, living in the village of Floris, in the vicinity of Herndon, Va., was sent to the pump on the homesite of a prominent white farmer about 60 years old. It was near supper time for the Tasco family. When the child did not come home with the water at once, the mother sent the younger brother who reported that the bucket was at the pump but the girl was not to be seen. Mrs. Tasco left home immediately and on passing the incubator house on this farmer's place she heard a disturbance in the shed, went to the door and threw it open. There, she testified, that she saw this old farmer in the act of attempting assault on her 14-year-old daughter. Much perturbed the mother upbraided the old man who sheepishly withdrew into the shed further. The father was sent over by the mother and he stood at the door and called the old man three times before he would appear. The girl testified that when she went to the pump he called her to the incubator house to give her some cracked eggs to carry home to her mother. When she entered the door he snapped off the light and would not let her get out.

The family called at the home of Mr. Shirley, a prominent colored citizen and Odd Fellow living at Oak Grove, near Herndon, who upon being told the story advised a warrant which was issued by the Magistrate Williams of Herndon. The man was not arrested but told to attend the next day. Upon hearing the evidence the Magistrate remanded the case to the grand jury. The old man was allowed to go home upon his promise to attend the trial at Fairfax, and the Magistrate expressed himself to Mr. Shirley as being desirous of securing justice for white and colored alike.

On the following day the Tasco family and Mr. Shirley were told that the Magistrate was going to have a rehearing of the case, and the Tascos were told it would be advisable to have a lawyer by the Magistrate. The poor old lady went to see several lawyers at Fairfax and one or two at Leesburg, but none would take the case against the old farmer. After a day's labor in vain, the case came off and the defense lawyers presented a case that resulted in dismissal by the same Magistrate. This in spite of the testimony of the girl, the supporting direct witness of the mother, and corroborating testimony of the father and Mr. Shirley.

Mr. Shirley and the parents then came to the home of Mr. E. B. Henderson, secretary of the Falls Church branch of the N. A. A. C. P., and of the County Interracial Committee and asked his advice. He has written to the Commonwealth Attorney for the county giving him the facts but had no reply by Tuesday. The mother noted an appeal, but was told it would be useless. The family has been visited by several white people and urged to drop the case. The girl's record and reputation are good.

Colored people and many white people believe that had the circumstances been reversed as to races, the aroused father and community sentiment might have jeopardized law. In a county that that has recently gone orderly through the trial and conviction of Boerstig, with less direct evidence, it is a sad commentary upon justice when two poor colored people with a sense of pride and desire to do right should be so crushed because they could get no lawyer, though willing to pay and because they were black.

Lynchings-1927
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan - June

2575

MT. VERNON, IND., DEMOCRAT
Saturday, July 30, 1927

LYNCHINGS

The lynchings in the United States for the first six months of this year totalled nine, the same as last year. Is our national lynching "stabilized" at the new level?

Regrettable as every one of the lynchings was, the figure represents a great gain over old records. When the past shame of the United States in this regard is considered, much satisfaction may be felt in reducing the number so low, comparatively, and holding it there. It is as lawless as it is often painted.

No wonder lynchings diminish, when such a breed of public officials is developing in southern cities as was demonstrated not long ago in Tampa when a mob tried to lynch a prisoner.

Every such manful stand on the part of public authorities is a victory for civilization.

YOUNGSTOWN, O., VINDICATOR
July 17, 1927

Letters from The People

The Lynching Record for the First Six Months of 1927

Tuskegee Institute, Ala., July 14, 1927
Editor of The Vindicator:

Sir: I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1927, there were 9 lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

Your very truly,
R. R. MOTON, Principal.

Anaconda (Mont.) Standard
July 25, 1927

FEWER LYNCHINGS, MORE FLOGGINGS.

Statistics compiled at Tuskegee Institute show a slow and unsteady decrease in the number of the country's lynchings. In the first six months of 1927 there were nine. This number is the same as for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is 4 more than for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than for the first six months of 1921. All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1. The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1. But if lynching in the South is declining, a flogging epidemic is raging. Incomplete returns show that thus far this year there have been 13 in Alabama, two in Florida and five in Georgia. All but four of the victims have been whites. Both sexes are represented in the list, and immoral conduct has been the charge preferred in nearly every case. Success in controlling the epidemic has not yet been attained. The chief difficulty encountered by the prosecuting lawyers is that of establishing the identity of a hooded flogger beyond a reasonable doubt. Ku Klux Klan leaders deny emphatically that the Klan sanctions, much less authorizes and promotes, these brutalities. They attribute them to individuals who, banding together, adopt the Klan's vesture to protect themselves from identification.

LOUISVILLE, KY., TIMES
JULY 14, 1927

Lynching Record.

To the Editor of The Times: I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find, according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research that in the first six months of 1927 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is four more than the number five for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number fifteen for the first six months of 1923, twenty-one less than the number thirty for the first six months of 1922, and twenty-seven less than the number thirty-six for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, four; attempted murder, two; rape, one; improper conduct, one; charge not reported, one.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas, two; Louisiana, one; Mississippi, four; Missouri, one; Texas, one.

R. R. MOTON, Principal.
Tuskegee, Ala.

BAYONNE N. J. NEWS
JULY 14, 1927

9 Lynchings in First 6 Months

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research in the first six months of 127, there were 9 lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is four more than the number five for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; statutory charge 1; improper conduct 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisianna 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

ST. LOUIS MO. TIMES
JULY 23, 1927

Data on Lynchings.

To the Editor: I send to you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find, according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, that in the first six months of 1927 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is four more than for the first six months of 1924, six less than for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, four; attempted murder, two; rape, one; improper conduct, one; charge not reported one. The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas, two; Louisiana, one; Mississippi, four; Missouri, one; Texas, one.

ROBERT R. MOTON.
Principal, Tuskegee Institute, Alabama, July 15.

Butte (Mont.) Post
July 16, 1927

NO DECREASE IN LYNCHING

Nine Negroes Victims in First Six Months of 1927.

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of [illegible] research that in the first six months of 1927, there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is four more than the number five for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas 1.

[illegible] STANDARD
JULY 14, 1927

NINE LYNCHINGS

Record for Past Six Months Kept at Tuskegee

According to records compiled at Tuskegee Institute, there were nine lynchings in the United States in the first six months of 1927.

This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

Baker Mont., Times
THURSDAY, JULY 28, 1927

Nine Lynchings in South in First Half of Year

Tuskegee, Ala.—Nine lynchings were recorded during the first half of 1927 by the department of records and research at Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute here. All of the persons lynched were negroes, the statement said, and were distributed among the states as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1, and Texas 1.

Minneapolis, Minn. Register.
SATURDAY, JULY 23, 1927

Nine Negro Lynchings Recorded.

Tuskegee, Ala. — Nine lynchings were recorded in the first half of 1927 by the department of records and research at Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute here.

CHICAGO, ILL., EAGLE
SATURDAY, JULY 23, 1927

Nine Lynchings in South in First Half of Year

Tuskegee, Ala.—Nine lynchings were recorded during the first half of 1927 by the department of records and research at Tuskegee Normal and Industrial institute here. All of the persons lynched were negroes, the statement said, and were distributed among the states as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1, and Texas 1.

[illegible] JUL 18 1927

LEAD[illegible] IN LYNCHING

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 18.—Mis[illegible]
[illegible]eads in 1927 lynchings, ac[illegible]
[illegible] to the announcement of the
[illegible]e Negro Institute's record de[illegible]
[illegible]t. Of nine lynchings record[illegible]
[illegible]r took place in Mississippi,
Arkansas, one in Louisiana
Missouri and one in Texas.

New Newport, R.I.

AUG 25 1927

LYNCHINGS IN 1926.

In spite of all the agitation in recent years against lynching, no less than 29 persons met their death in this way during 1926. Moreover, this is an increase of 13 over the year 1925, according to a report compiled by the department of records and research of Tuskegee Institute. The records for several preceding years were: 1922, 57; 1923, 33; 1924, 16; 1925, 16.

In the Tuskegee study for 1926 it was found that the courts had acquitted one of the victims, that twenty of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, eight from jails and twelve from officers of the law outside of jails, and that two of the persons lynched were women. There were thirty-three instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four of these were in Northern and twenty-nine in Southern states.

In twenty-seven of the cases, the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In six other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. In four instances during the year, persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were indicted.

Of the thirty-four persons thus before the courts, nine were sentenced to the penitentiary: eight for terms ranging from four to twenty years, and one for life. Of the 29 persons lynched, there were 22 Negroes, 6 whites, and 1 Indian.

Five, or less than 17 per cent of those put to death, were charged with rape or attempted rape. The offenses charged were: Murder, 8; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; killing officer of the law, 5; wounding officer of the law, 2; attacking woman, 1; insulting woman, 1; frightening woman, 1; burglary, 1; charge not reported, 5.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 1; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 4; New Mexico, 1; South Carolina, 3; Tennessee, 1; Texas, 7; Virginia, 1.

Hendersonville N.C. Times

JUL 1 5 1927

RECORD NINE LYNCHINGS

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 15.—Nine lynchings were recorded during the first half of 1927 by the department of records and research at Tuskegee normal and industrial institute here.

All of the persons lynched were negroes, the statement said, and were distributed among the states as follows: Arkansas 2; Louisiana 1; Mississippi 4; Missouri 1, and Texas 1.

OKMULGEE, OK., DEMOCRAT
JULY 15, 1927

9 NEGROES LYNCHED IN FIRST HALF YEAR

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 15—(Special)—Nine persons were lynched in the United States in the first six months of 1927, according to statistics compiled and announced here today by the department of records and research of the Tuskegee Normal and industrial institute. All were negroes.

This is said to be the same number as for the first half of 1925 and 1926, four more than for the first half of 1925, six less than for the corresponding period in 1923, 21 less than for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than for the similar period in 1921.

The offenses charges were murder, four; attempted murder, two; rape, one; improper conduct, one; charge not reported, one. The states in which the lynchings occurred, and the number are, Arkansas, two; Louisiana, one; Mississippi, four; Missouri, one and Texas, one.

Brainerd, Minn., Journal-Press
FRIDAY, JULY 22, 1927

Nine Negro Lynchings Recorded.

Tuskegee, Ala. — Nine lynchings were recorded in the first half of 1927 by the department of records and research at Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute here.

Campbell Mo Citizen
AUGUST 5, 1927

NINE LYNCHINGS IN FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1927.

According to figures compiled by Tuskegee Institute, there were nine lynchings during the first six months of 1927. All the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were murder 4, attempted murder 2, rape 1, improper conduct 1, charge not reported 1. Two of the lynchings occurred in Arkansas, 1 in Louisiana, 4 in Mississippi, 1 in Missouri and 1 in Texas.

COURANT
HARTFORD, CONN

JUL 1 6 1927

THE LYNCHING RECORD.

Tuskegee Institute Principal Presents Figures for Six Months.

To the Editor of The Courant:—

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of the year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1927, there were 9 lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is four more than the number five for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The States in which the lynching occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

R. R. MOTON,
PRINCIPAL TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE.
Tuskegee, Ala., July 9, 1927.

UNRESTRAINED LAWLESSNESS

By Contributing Editor

Nine Negroes were lynched during the first six months of 1927 according to the records of Tuskegee Institute. On the credit of the State of Georgia the records did not include her name, but to her shame there have been a number of "whippings" in different sections of the state by bands of men, who make nocturnal visitations upon the victims of their wrath.

Under the pretense of preserving the ideals of civilization men bind themselves together and wreak vengence upon some individual because of some real or fancied breach of the civil law or the moral law. Formerly the Negro was the victim of mob "rule," and he, it was, who supplied the "meat" to be "butchered" to make complete the "holiday." But these "malpractors" of "law" were permitted to run rampantly too long and they have extended their operations to the whipping of white men and women.

The law lays dethroned in this state. This is the culmination of the psychic force which governs the mob. This complete debacle of lawful authority is the natural result of the failure of the state to seek out and punish the members of the mobs which for years have engaged in the lynchings of Negroes. These unlawful operations of the mob, now confined to the masses, will some day extend to the classes.

The orderly administration of the law and the resultant punishment of the criminal make pure the lifeblood of our great commonwealth, but the violent man-handling of men and women by promiscuous and unidentified groups of self-designated promoters of righteousness spells certain destruction to civilized society. Criminals must be punished, if civilized society is to be preserved, but the punishment must be executed by and through lawful authority.

The law-abiding citizens of the State of Georgia stand face to face with its most serious problem. The very safety of life and limb depends upon the proper handling of the situation. Heretofore the men and women of moral integrity in this state have been callous to the need of checking mob violence and public opinion seemed to approve the lynching of a Negro accused of a crime, but with the "complexion" of the situation changed, they scent danger and are aroused to action.

It is deplorable that the necessity for action against members of the mobs which lynched Negroes was not concluded many years ago but we find no cause to gloat over the machinations of the mobs against white men and women. We see the potent danger of disintegration of organized society and the establishment of a reign of terror in this country.

Doubtless the wise men of Georgia and other states will find some way to check these mob operations against white men and women, but they should not cease their efforts until mob violence against Negroes shall be completely suppressed. Just as long as mobs are permitted to lynch Negroes, so long they will possess the "nerve" to attack and whip white men and women. The nine lynchings of Negroes thus far in the year are too many lynchings by nine.

Cartersville, Ga., Tribune-News

JUL 21 1927

Nine Lynched Since Jan. 1st.

Tuskegee, Ala.—There were nine lynchings during the first half of 1927 the department of records and research at Tuskegee Normal and Industrial institute announced today.

All of the persons lynched were negroes, the statement says, and were distributed among the states as follows: Arkansas 2; Louisiana 1; Mississippi 4; Missouri 1, and Texas 1.

The offenses charged were: Murder four, attempted murder 2, rape 1, improper conduct 1, charge not reported 1, the institute's announcement stated.

The total number for the first half of this year equalled the figures for the first half of 1925-26 and was four more than the total for the first half of 1924. It was six less than the number for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the figure for the same period of 1922 and 27 less than the record for corresponding months of 1921.

HUNTSVILLE, MO., HERALD
JULY 21, 1927

Robert R. Moton, Principal of the Tuskegee Normal and Institute at Tuskegee, Alabama, for the training of colored young men and women, informs the Herald that according to the records compiled at Tuskegee, Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1927, there were 9 lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, and 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchnigs occurred and the number in each are as follows Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH, TELEGRAM
JULY 14, 1927

RECORD REVEALS NINE LYNCHINGS

Number Equals That for First Six Months of 1925 and 1926

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 13 (AP)—Nine lynchings were recorded during the first half of 1927 by the department of records and research at Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute here.

All of the persons lynched were negroes, the statement said, and were distributed among the states as follows:

Arkansas 2, Louisiana 1, Mississippi 4, Missouri 1 and Texas 1.

The offenses listed were:

Murder 6, attempted murder 2, rape 2, improper conduct 1, charge not reported 1. The total number for the first half of this year equalled the figures for the first half of 1925-26 and was four more than the total for the first half of 1924. It was six less than the number for the first six months of 1923, twenty-one less than the figures for the same period of 1922 and twenty-seven less than the record for corresponding months of 1921.

Grand Rapids, Mich., Independent
Thursday, July 21, 1927

LYNCHING RECORD

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, in the first six months of 1927, there were 9 lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is four more than the number five for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number fifteen for the first six months of 1923, twenty-one less than the number thirty for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number thirty six for the first six months of 1921.

All the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were murder, four; attempted murder, two; rape, one; improper conduct, one; charge not reported, one.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, two; Louisiana, one Mississippi, four; Missouri, one; Texas, one.

Kalispell, Mont., Inter Lake
SATURDAY, JULY 16, 1927

LYNCHINGS ON DECREASE

A report from the Tuskegee Institute shows that lynching is on the decrease, which indicates that as a nation we are becoming more law abiding.

The report shows that there were six lynchings in the first six months of 1927. For similar periods there were 36 in 1921; 16 for 1922; 15 for 1923; five for 1924; and nine each for the years 1925, 1926, and 1927.

While a record of nine lynchings in a six-months period is a good many, a remarkable decrease is shown in recent years. The states in which the lynchings occurred this year were Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, and Texas. In each case the victims were Negroes, and with two exceptions the offenses charged were most heinous.

While this might seem like racial prejudice, the southerners seem to have a way of employing force to regulate the conduct of whites as well. Only recently in Alabama a woman and her son were beaten for alleged immoral conduct by a group of masked men, headed by a man occupying the position of a high school, as well as being superintendent of a Sunday school. Reports of other occurrences of a similar nature have come from the same state, and it is reported that the legislature is about to pass legislation to curb such crimes.

While there are exaggerated cases in all states which seem to require swift and drastic punishment, the only safe course is to allow the law to deal with the offenders; otherwise the very foundations of our government are likely to be undermined.

If those who participate in the lynching of Negroes and beating those of their own race whose morals do not conform to their ideals, would lend their efforts toward tightening up the laws, and in helping to secure evidence of violations, there would be no occasion for mob violence.

MONON, IND., NEWS
Friday, July 22, 1927

Nine Lynchings in South in First Half of Year

Tuskegee, Ala.—Nine lynchings were recorded during the first half of 1927 by the department of records and research at Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute here. All of the persons lynched were negroes, the statement said, and were distributed among the states as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1, and Texas 1.

Franklin (Delaware Co.) Dairyman
Friday, July 22, 1927

The Lynching Record For The First Six Months Of 1927.

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1927, there were 9 lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is four more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the number 36 for the first six months of 1921. All of the persons lynched were Negroes.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

CARUTHERSVILLE MO DEMO
JULY 19, 1927

NINE LYNCHINGS FOR FIRST HALF OF 1927

Communication from the principal of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute prominent training school for the colored in Alabama, brings the information that for the first six months of the present year there have been nine lynchings of negroes in the United States, according to records compiled at this school. This number is the same as for the first half of 1925 and 1926 and is four more than for the same period in 1924. It is six less than for the corresponding period of 1923, twenty-one less than the first half of 1922 and twenty-seven less than for that portion of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were negroes and the offenses charged were as follows: Murder 4, attempted murder 2, rape 1, improper conduct 1, charge not reported 1. The lynchings were in the following states: Arkansas 2, Louisiana 1, Mississippi 4, Missouri 1 and Texas 1.

Houghton, Mich., Mining Gazette
Sunday, July 24, 1927

Nine Lynchings in 1927.

TUSKEGEE, Ala.—Nine lynchings were recorded in the first half of 1927 by the Department of Records and Research at Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute.

All of those lynched were Negroes, distributed as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisana, 1; Mississipppi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

Alleged offenses listed were: Murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The total number equalled the figures for the first half of 1925-26

EVANSVILLE, IND., COURIER
Saturday, July 23, 1927

Lynchings

The lynchings in the United States for the first six months of this year totalled nine, the same as last year. Is our national lynchings "stabilized" at that low level?

Regrettable as every one of the lynchings is, the figure represents a great gain over old records. When the past shame of the United States in this regard is considered, much satisfaction may be felt in reducing the number so low, comparatively, and holding it there. It is a triumph for law and order, in a country which is not so lawless as it is often painted.

No wonder lynchings diminish when such a breed of public officials is developing in southern cities as was demonstrated not long ago in Tampa, when a mob tried to lynch a prisoner. Every such manful stand on the part of public authority is a victory for civilization.

CALDWELL, O., PRESS
July 20, 1927

SIX MONTHS' LYNCHINGS

We give the record of 1927—first half—on lynchings. We assume it is correct:

"I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research, that in the first six months of 1927 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is four more than the number five for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.—R. R. Morton Principal, Tuskegee Institute, Ala. July 9."

Constantine, Mich., Advertiser-Record
Wednesday, July 20, 1927

Nine Lynchings in South in First Half of Year

Tuskegee, Ala.—Nine lynchings were recorded during the first half of 1927 by the department of records and research at Tuskegee Normal and Industrial institute here. All of the persons lynched were negroes, the statement said, and were distributed among the states as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1, and Texas 1.

COLO. SPRINGS GOL. TELEGRAPH
JULY 13, 1927

Tuskegee Institute records nine lynchings in five states of south and southwest in first six months of year.

President Cosgrave and other officials of Irish Free State pay homage as body of Kevin O'Higgins is taken from mansion house to St. Andrew's church, Dublin.

2576

Lynchings-1927
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan.—June.

SYLACAUGA, ALA., ADVANCE
JULY 17, 1927

TUSKEGEE RECORDS NINE LYNCHINGS

Tuskegee, Ala., July 15.—Nine lynchings have been recorded by Tuskegee Normal and Industrial institute's record department for the first half of 1927.

The same number occurred in 1925 and 1926, according to the statement.

Mississippi led with four.

Spokane, Wash., Spokesman-Review
JULY 17, 1927

REPORTS 9 LYNCHED IN 1927

All Were Negroes, Tuskegee Institute Figures Show.

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala., July 16.—The following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year is furnished by Robert R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee institute.

Records compiled at Tuskegee institute in the department of records and research show that in the first six months of 1927 there were nine lynchings. This is the same as for the first six months of 1925 and 1926; it is four more than for the first six months of 1924, six less than the 15 for the first six months of 1923; 21 less than the 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; criminal assault, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

LAREDO TEX. TIMES
JULY 14, 1927

Miss. Leads In Lynching Bees

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1927, there were 9 lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

RIVERDALE, ILL., PIONEER
Friday, July 22, 1927

Nine Lynchings in South Win First Half of Year

Tuskegee, Ala.—Nine lynchings were recorded during the first half of 1927 by the department of records and research at Tuskegee Normal and Industrial institute here. All of the persons lynched were negroes, the statement said, and were distributed among the states as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1, and Texas 1.

$291 an Acre for Iowa Land

Cedar Rapids, Iowa.—Aaron B. Gingerich purchased the 42-acre farm of Emory B. Yoder here for $12,240, at the rate of more than $291 an acre.

WALLA WALLA, WASH., UNION
JULY 17, 1927

COMMUNICATED

Tuskegee Institute, Alabama, July 8,

The Lynching Record For the First Six Months of 1927.

Dear Sir:

I send you the following information concerning lynching for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1927, there were 9 lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynching occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

Yours very truly,
R. R. Morton
Principal

Watertown, N.Y. Standard
JUL 18 1927

American Lynching Record

Tuskegee Institution of Alabama, which keeps a careful record of lynchings in this country, reports for the first six months of 1927 that:

"There were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is four more than the number, five, for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number, fifteen, for the first six months of 1923, twenty-one less than the number, thirty, for the first six months of 1992, and twenty-seven less than the number, thirty-six for the first six months of 1921. All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were murder, four; attempted murder, two; rape, one; improper conduct, one; charge not reported, one. The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows, Arkansas, two; Louisiana, one; Mississippi, four; Missouri, one; Texas, one."

These figures indicate a temporary flare up of the mob spirit but that an average decrease is being maintained because they are so much better than those of but a few years ago.

The most discouraging aspect is that all the victims were Negroes and all lynchings in southern states, this indicating that racial prejudice is still the greatest incitor of the mob. However, the north should be slow in blaming the south too much for this weakness, for with the flood of blacks into this section the old prejudice may develop here. The north does not know the Negro as does the south and its judgment of the relations of the races therefore never can be reliable until it has been confronted by conditions similar to those in the south and shown greater self cont[illegible]

The most encouraging aspect is that lynching has come to be the result, apparently of only the greatest provocation or some unique circumstances, for the Negroes lynched must have been an insignificant fraction of the total charged with crimes. The great majority got the benefit of due process of law and only a few exceptions were victims of brute force.

Lynching probably never can be abolished entirely but it can be made the rare exception and evidently we are making progress in that direction.

BELLINGHAM, WASH., HERALD
JULY 13, 1927

Overnight

(By the Associated Press.)

Cairo advices to London say British military aviators in Palestine earthquake area estimate death toll [illegible],000.

Dynamite and feeble streams of water useless as West Blochton, Central Alabama mining town, of about 2,000 population, is virtually wiped out in fire started by explosion of tailor's gasoline tank.

Change of venue granted Mrs. Rebecca Bradley Rogers, former university co-ed charged with bank robbery, after first group of prospective jurors balk at serving on case where death penalty for robbery with firearms is asked.

Two hundred and fifty Civil war veterans flee as fire, apparently incendiary, sweeps three-story barrack building at Soldiers' home at Sawtelle, Cal.

County surgeon at Hollywood, Cal., finds death of Percival L. Lynwood, film director and publicity man, was caused by acute alcoholism after five-day drinking bout.

Shipping board directs merchant fleet corporation to plan for sale of thirty-seven ships of four lines in Atlantic coast trade service; postpones to September proposal to sell forty-[illegible] vessels of Pacific fleet.

Tuskegee institute records nine lynchings in five states of South [illegible] in the first six months of year.

Lynchings-1927

Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan. — June.

2577

MANHATTAN KS MERCURY
JULY 14, 1927

NINE NEGROES LYNCHED IN PAST SIX MONTHS

Tuskegee Institute Statistics Show Same Number Victims as Last Year and Year Before.

Tuskegee Institute, Ala., July 9 (Special)—According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1927, there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 21 less than the numbers 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six monts of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

R. R. MOTON, Principal.
July 9, 1927. Tuskegee Institute.

JUL 1 2 1927

Charleston SC Post

Nine Lynchings During First Half of 1927

Tuskegeee, Ala., July 12. (AP)—There were nine lynchings during the first half of 1927 the department of records and reaserch at Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute announced today.

All of the persons lynched were negroes, the statement said and were distributed among the states, as follows:

Arkansas 2, Louisiana 3, Mississippi 4, Missouri 1, and Texas 1.

The offenses charged were:

Murder 3, attempted murder 4, rape 1, improper conduct 1, charge not reported 1, the institute's announcement stated.

The total number for the first half of this year equalled the figures for the first half of 1925-26 and was four more than the total for the first half of 1924. It was six less than the number for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the figure for the same period of 1922 and 27 less than the record for corresponding months of 1921.

and Texas 1.

The offenses listed were: Murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The total number for the first half of this year equaled the figures for the first half of 1925-26 and was four more than the total for the first half of 1924. It was six less than the number for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the figures for the same period of 1922 and 27 less than the record for corresponding months of 1921.

1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

Ashville N. C. Times
JUL 1 5 1927

Lynching In 1927

ACCORDING to the records of Tuskegee Institute, there were nine lynchings in the country for the first six months of 1927. As a basis for judgment as to the decrease or increase of unlawful killings by mobs, the figures are inconclusive. In some recent years the number of lynchings for the first half of the year have been more or less than this: last year and the year before the half-year's record was the same as this year's. It is clear, however, that the agencies of law-enforcement and the power of public opinion must keep themselves unalterably set and on the alert against mob violence.

All those lynched this year were Negroes. One was charged with rape, one with improper conduct, four with murder, two with attempted murder, and as to one the charge was not reported. The state record for these successful assaults on the law is as follows: Mississippi 4; Arkansas 2; Missouri 1; Texas 1; Louisiana 1. It is a record of state shame. The

ST. LOUIS MO. POST DISPATCH
JULY 13, 1927

NINE LYNCHED IN SIX MONTHS

All of Victims Were Negroes Equals Total Same Period in 1926

By the Associated Press.

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 13.—Nine lynchings were recorded during the first half of 1927 by the Department of Records and Research at Tuskegee Institute here. All persons lynched were Negroes, the statement said, and were distributed among the states as follows: Arkansas 2, Louisiana 1, Mississippi 4, Missouri 1, and Texas 1. The offenses listed included four murders and two attempted murders.

The lynchings for the first half of this year equaled the figures for the first half of 1925 and 1926, and exceeded the total for the first half of 1924 by four. The total was six less than the number for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the figures for the same period of 1922 and 27 less than the record for corresponding months of 1921.

LOUISIANA, MO., JOURNAL
JULY 15, 1927

THE NATIONAL DISGRACE

Nine Lynchings Occurred Within the First Six Months of the Present Year.

According to the report of Principal R. R. Moton of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial institute at Tuskegee, Ala., nine lynchings occurred in the United States in the past six months.

This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is four more than the number five for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, twenty-one less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 5; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

BELLEFONTAINE, O., EXAMINER
July 16, 1927

LYNCHING RECORD.

Editor Examiner:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Departmen[illegible]ds and Research that in the first six months of 1927, there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is four more than the number five for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows, Arkansas, 2;

SEBRING, O., REACON
July 14, 1927

9 LYNCHINGS IN U. S. FIRST HALF OF YEAR

Mississippi Leads With Four Reported In Six Months

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 14.—Nine lynchings were recorded during the first half of 1927 by the department of records and research at Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute here.

All of the persons lynched were negroes, the statement said, and were distributed among the states as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri 1,

OSKALOOSA IA HER
FRIDAY, JULY 15, 1927.

1927 LYNCHINGS.

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, in the first six months of 1927 there were 9 lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape,

EFFINGHAM ILL RECORD
SATURDAY, JULY 16, 1927.

9 LYNCHINGS ARE REPORTED FOR FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1927

Tuskegee, Ala., July 14.—Nine lynchings were recorded during the first half of 1927 by the department of records and research at Tuskegee Normal and Industrial institute here.

All of the persons lynched were negroes, the statement said, and were distributed among the states as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1, and Texas, 1.

The offenses listed were, Murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The total number for the first half of this year equaled the figures for the first half of 1925-26 and was four more than the total for the first half of 1924. It was six less than the number for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the figures for the same period of 1922 and 27 less than the record for corresponding months of 1921.

NASHVILLE, TENN. TENNESSEAN
JULY 13, 1927

9 LYNCHINGS REPORTED DURING FIRST HALF 1927

(By United Press.)

Tuskegee, Ala., July 13.—Nine lynchings have been recorded by Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institue's record department for the first half of 1927.

The same number occurred in 1925 and 1926 according to the statement.

Mississippi led with four.

CHICAGO HGHTS ILL STAR (white)
TUESDAY, JULY 19, 1927

GRADUALLY WINNING IN FIGHT AGAINST MOB RULE

Progress in the campaign to eliminate lynching in the southern states is temporarily at a standstill, according to figures released today by the department of records and research of the Tuskegee institute, Alabama.

The statement shows that there were nine lynchings during the first six months of 1927. This is the same number as for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is four more than the number for the first six months of 1925; six less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

Thus while a marked progress was noted in th decrease up until 1925 the number has been stati since that time despite the increasing ill favor i which the practice is held by better element throughout the south.

All persons lynched during the first six months of this year were Negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1. The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

This report shows that the lynchings centered in districts primarily agricultural, remote from cities and impervious to education. It was to be expected that Mississippi, the paragon of provincialism, would lead in the list, for in that state cities are few and even the scattered colleges have been unable to overcome the inherited barbarous beliefs of their founders.

But in spite of the fact that no decrease has been noted in the number of mob killings during the past three years, the outlook for the final elimination of the practice is far from dark. Many years will pass, of course, before the cotton field potentates are persuaded to drop an ancient prejudice and allow the law to take its course. But in the light of the decrease in the number of lynchings since 1922, there is every reason to believe that the leaders such as the Tuskegee institute are achieving a gradual success in their fight to give the Negro the same chance as the white man before those who would substitute passion for law.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., ADVERTISER
JULY 13, 1927

THE LYNCHING RECORD FOR THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1927

Editor The Advertiser:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research that in the first six months of 1927, there were 9 lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

R. R. MOTON.
Tuskegee, Alabama.

MUSKEGON (MICH.) CHRON
SATURDAY, JULY 16, 1927.

Civilization Scores in South.

The department of records and research of Tuskegee Institute, the normal and industrial school for colored young men and women founded by that great Moses of his race, Booker T. Washington, announces that the number of lynchings of Negroes in the South for the first half of the year 1927 was nine, the same as for the first half of the two previous years.

This equals the best record since accurate account has been kept, except for the remarkable year 1924, when there were but five lynchings for the same period. Compared with 15 for 1923, with 30 in 1922 and with 36 in 1921, that is tremendous progress.

The record is somewhat of a surprise, because an off-hand impression would have been that there had been something of an epidemic of lynching in the South in the last few months. The reason is, of course, that lynching is becoming so uncommon that it attracts more attention. The record would have been more complete had it related the number of attemped or threatened lynchings thwarted by the prompt and courageonus action of the authorities, a circumstance that is becoming encouragingly more frequent.

The record is evidence of progress of civilization. And in its guilt the North is not without a share of the responsibility. It has been shown that race prejudice is more deadly here than in the South, once it is loosed. The South has borne the bulk of the odium in the past because it has had the bulk of the problem. But with the steady infiltration of the colored race into the North the race problem is coming more and more to be a national one.

The lynching bee is merely a survival of savagery, a defeat of enlightened government. It is a combination of brutality and cowardice. The decrease in this form of savagery is evidence of an advance in civ.

EUFAULA, ALA., CITIZEN
JULY 13, 1927

NINE LYNCHED SINCE JAN. 1ST.

All Were Negroes, Tuskegee Investigation Shows

TUSKEGEE, Ala. July 13.—There were nine lynchings during the first half of 1927, the department of records and research at Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute announced today.

All of the persons lynched were negroes the statement says, and were distributed among the states as follows: Arkansas 2; Louisiana 1; Mississippi 4; Missouri 1; and Texas 1.

The offenses charged were, Murder four, attempted murder, 2; rape 1, improper conduct 1, charge not reported 1, the institute's announcement stated.

This total for the first half of this year equalled the figures for the first half of 1925-26 and was four more than the total for the first half of 1924. It was six less than the than the number of the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the figure for the same period of 1922 and 27 less than the record for corresponding months of 1921.

TALLADEGA, ALA., HOME
JULY 13, 1927.

NINE LYNCHINGS IN SOUTH IN 1927

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 13.—Nine lynchings were recorded during the first half of 1927 by the department of records and research at Tuskegee Normal and Industrial institute here.

All of the persons lynched were negroes, the statement said, and were distributed among the states as follows:

Arkansas 2; Louisiana 1; Mississippi 4; Missouri 1 and Texas 1.

Manchester N.H. Union
JUL 15 1927

LYNCH LAW.

The lynching record for the first six months of 1927, as compiled by Tuskegee Institute, appears to indicate something like a static condition in the field of mob violence. The nine cases reported between January and July present the same number as figured in the returns for a similar period in 1925 and 1926. It is a worse showing than was made in 1924, but marks an improvement over preceding years. It is as if the process of combatting the evil could claim notable progress down to '24, and that since that year there has been slight change.

Robert R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee, makes note that all the persons lynched in the first half of this year were negroes. Mississippi had four cases, Arkansas two, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas one each. The southern states along the Atlantic coast are given a clean bill.

N. Y. City Sun
JUL 13 1927

Data on Lynchings.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: I send to you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find, according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research, that in the first six months of 1927 there were 9 lynchings. This number is the same as for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is 4 more than for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1. The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

ROBERT R. MOTON,
Principal.

Tuskegee Institute, Alabama, July 15.

YOUNGSTOWN OHIO VIND
SUNDAY, JULY 17, 1927.

Letters from The People

The Lynching Record for the First Six Months of 1927

Tuskegee Institute, Ala., July 14, 1927.
Editor of The Vindicator:

Sir; I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1927, there were 9 lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1. The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

Your very truly,
R. R. MOTON, Principal.

Editor of The Vindicator, Sir:—I want to offer a suggestion to our city

"this would save a lot of money

Lynchings-1927

Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan. - June.

2578

HAVANA CUBA POST
SATURDAY, JULY 16, 1927.

NINE LYNCHINGS RECORDED

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 15. (AP)—Nine lynchings were recorded during the first half of 1927 by the department of records and research at Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute here.

CHATTANOOGA, TENN., TIMES
JULY 17, 1927

LYNCHING IN [illegible]

While it does not appear that any progress has been made toward the prevention of lynching since the first of the year, records compiled at the Tuskegee institute at least show that there has been no slipping backward. During the six months ending June 30, last, there were nine lyinchings, the same number as that recorded for the corresponding periods of 1926 and 1925. That there has been no increase is of itself reason for a degree of encouragement, especially in view of the fact that there has been such a widespread manifestation of mob violence in the form of hooded floggings.

All of the lynchings in America this year have occurred in the south. They were distributed as follows: Mississippi, 4; Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Texas, 1; Missouri, 1. On these five states fall the darkest parts of the shadow of shame which rests upon the south because of its nine lynchings during the past six months. And the disgrace of these states has been deepened by their failure to bring those responsible for the mob killings to the bar of justice and punish them.

The lynchings herein referred to were occasioned by various things, listed as follows: Murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; no reason given, 1. This classification disproves the contention that the practice of lynching is rooted wholly in a desire to protect the womanhood of the south. Assuming that the killing listed as due to improper conduct and that for which no reason is assigned both followed the commission of sex crimes, only three of the nine lynchings this year resulted from outrages on women. Two-thirds of the number were precipitated by murder or attempted murder.

Blood lust and a disposition on the part of some individuals to take the law into their own hands would, therefore, seem to be the principal causes of lynchings. And it is high time the people of the south were beginning to consider execution by mob a crime without any justification in fact, reason or sentiment, and were beginning to stamp it out with such resolution as the situation requires.

HUMBOLDT, NEB., STANDARD
JULY 15, 1927

Robert R. Morton, principal of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial In[illegible] just issued a statement [illegible] the number of lynchings [illegible] have taken place in these United States for the first half of 1927. During this period there were nine lynchings, the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; four more than the number (5) for the first half of 1924; six less than the number (15) for the same period in 1923; twenty-one less than the number (30) in 1922, twenty-seven less than the number (36) in 1921. All persons lynched were Negros and the offenses charged were murder 4; attempted murder 2; rape 1; improper conduct 1; charge not reported 1. The states in which the lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas 2; Louisana 1; Mississippi 4; Missouri 1 and Texas 1.

NEOSHO, MO., DEMOCRAT
JULY 15, 1927

9 LYNCHINGS IN U. S. IN PAST 6 MONTHS

According to the records compiled at Tuskekee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, in the first six months of 1927, there were 9 lynchings in the United States.

This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is 4 more than the number, 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; and Texas, 1.

Valdosta Ga Times
JUL 1 5 1927

LYNCHING RECORD LOWER

According to the records kept at Tuskegee Institute, and which have been entirely accurate in the past, the lynching record is being lowered each year. For the first six months of the present year there were nine lynchings, which is the same number as occurred the first six months of last year, though it is four more than occurred during the same months of 1924.

The number this year was six less than for the first six months of 1923 twenty one less than for the first six months of 1922 and twenty seven less than for the first six months of 1921. The States where lynchings have occurred this year are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

It is a matter of pride that no lynching occurred in Georgia the past six months. Our previous record in that respect has been enough to last for a long time, and our State's escutcheon is made to look bad enough by the "floggings of women and children which have been carried on by cowardly thugs in different parts of the commonwealth.

Sowell Mass Leader
JUL 18 1927

Principal Robert B. Moton of the Tuskegee Institute, who has been keeping track of lynchings, reports that there have been nine cases during the first six months of the current year, the victim in each instance being a Negro. The figures are the same as those for similar periods in 1926 and 1925 and higher than those for 1924. Mississippi had the most cases this year, four in number, Arkansas had two and Louisiana, Missouri and Texas one each. Taken in connection with the recent brutal floggings by masked mobs on much less provocation the situation is not

Y THE NEWS.

encouraging. Yet in some parts of the South there are indications of a strong public sentiment against mob rule. Such influential newspapers as the Atlanta Constitution are outspoken in their denunciation. Meanwhile those in the states mentioned in the Tuskegee list who are opposed to a federal anti-lynching law will be inconsistent unless they take every means in their power to help the state governments to tackle the problem effectively and courageously.

Leominster Mass Enterprise
JUL 16 1927

Lynching Records

Lynchings in this country continue high. Comparatively speaking, the condition is greatly improving. Actually, however, the figures still tell a shameful story. The figures have been compiled by Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute since 1885, and are given out at regular intervals. The figures for the first half of the year 1927 have just been published, and they show a decided improvement in the situation over that of a decade and more ago.

There were nine lynchings during the first six months of 1927, which is the same number as for the first six months of both 1925 and 1926, four more than the number for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched thus far this year have been Negroes. Criminal assault seems to be the major offense, furnishing the ostensible reason for most of the lynchings, but we find that this has not been the charge in a very large number of cases.

The offenses charged this year were: Murder, four; attempted murder, two; rape, one; improper conduct, one; charge not reported, one.

Some states which have had the largest number of lynchings in the past have had no lynchings this year. The nine lynchings of this year have occurred in five states, as follows: Arkansas, two; Louisiana, one; Mississippi, four; Missouri, one; and Texas, one.

We would be glad to study any figures, if such have been compiled, of lynchings in other countries. It is doubtful if many nations of any size and standing in the world have such a record as this. It is one of the disgraceful aspects of our American life, for which there can be no apology. Homicides are not to be condoned; murder by mob-passion is bad, doubly bad, for many reasons. Doubt as to the guilt of the victim has often been expressed, and proven by subsequent developments. Fewer delays and miscarriages of justice in our courts would probably prevent a good many lynchings. But even that weakness in our judiciary system does not justify another error.

A combination of circumstances probably accounts for the bettering of this vile condition, principally an arousing of the public conscience which admits that the thing it wrong; that it invites racial troubles; that it has proven an economic loss to the Southland in the exodus of large numbers of Negroes; plus the agitation over the Dyer anti-lynching bill, which if it had been enacted into law, would have made lynching a Federal offense.

NASHVILLE, TENN., TENNESSEAN
JULY 15, 1927

Our Lynching Record.

Despite the unfortunate revival of masked mob violence manifested in whipping parties over a wide area of the South it is gratifying to know that during the first six months of the present year there was no increase in the number of lynchings according to the records compiled at Tuskagee Institute. During the six months ending on June 30 there were nine lynchings. This is the same number for the same period of last year, and also for 195. But it shows an increase over 1924. On the other hand, it is a decrease from 1923, 1922 and 1921.

Five states furnished all of the nine lynchings. There were four in Mississippi, two in Arkansas and one each in the states of Louisiana, Missouri and Texas. It is very much to be regretted that all of these are Southern states, but it is, on the other hand, a source of congratulation that Georgia, South Carolina and Florida, that have in the past been the chief offenders in the matter of mob law, did not have a single lynching. It is particularly pleasing to Tennesseans to know that this state escaped entirely. During recent years it has been making a good record in respect of mob violence, but unless the depredations of night riders and masked mob violators are checked and the perpetrators adequately punished we may expect a recurrence of the more serious crimes. For one form of violence and lawlessness leads to another.

The causes assigned for the nine lynchings bear out the contention often made in these columns that the so-called sex offense is responsible for comparatively few of the crimes of this character. Four of the lynchings were caused by murder; attempted murder claimed two victims; rape, one; improper conduct, one, and in one case the cause was not reported. Even assuming that improper conduct and the unreported case were both due to some sex crime, then we find that the reason that apologists offer for our unenviable lynching record in the South does not in fact exist. Sex crimes were responsible for only a third of the lynchings. Mobs bent on vengeance seldom inquire as to the nature of the crime; they are governed and incited by blood lust.

WICHITA KS. EAGLE
JULY 16, 1927

NINE NEGROES LYNCHED

Lynchings Not on Increase in Southern States, Figures Show

Tuskegee, Ala., July 12.—Nine lynchings were recorded during the first half of 1927 by the department of records and research at Tuskegee normal institute here. All of the persons were Negroes. The lynchings were distributed among the states thusly: Arkansas, 2; Louisana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1, and Texas, 1.

The total number for the first half of this year equaled the figures for the first half of 1925-1926.

SALINA KS. JOURNAL
JULY 15, 1927

A REPORT ON LYNCHINGS

Number is Exactly the Same as in 1925 and 1926

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala., July 15.—Report on lynching issued by the department of records and research of Tuskegee institute says that in the first six months of 1927, there were 9 lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct 1; charge not reported 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas 1.

S. C. MO. DROVERS TELEGRAM
JULY 13, 1927

Nine Lynchings In Six Months.

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 13.—Nine lynchings have been recorded by the Tuskegee normal and industrial institute's record department for the first half of 1927. The same number occurred in 1925 and 1926, according to the statement.

Charleston (W. Va) Da. Mail
July 16, 1927

would have become a law on Friday of this week and increased the tax from three to four cents, the added revenue to be used for highway work.

Nine lynchings, all negroes, were recorded the first half of 1927 by the Department of Records and Research at Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, distributed among the States as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1, and Texas 1. The offenses listed were: murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The Shipping Board announce the

MILFORD, ILL., HERALD
Thursday, July 21, 1927

Nine Lynchings in South in First Half of Year

Tuskegee, Ala.—Nine lynchings were recorded during the first half of 1927 by the department of records and research at Tuskegee Normal and Industrial institute here. All of the persons lynched were negroes, the statement said, and were distributed among the states as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1, and Texas 1.

ROANOKE (VA) WORLD-NEWS
July 16, 1927.

damages after every summer thunder storm.

NINE LYNCHINGS THIS YEAR.

Nine lynchings for the first half of 1927 is the report of Tuskegee Institute, which for years has kept tally on the number of mob murders of the defenseless. The record does not include those shot down resisting arrest. It does not include various other killings. It limits lynching solely to instances where the mob takes the law into its own hands and acts as judge, jury and executioner; where the constituted authorities have been set at naught, the sheriff and law enforcement officers overborne or bought off, and the whole processes of justice held in contempt.

The nine lynchings for the first half of this year is the same number as for the first six months of 1926 and for the first half of 1925, and is slightly more than for the first half of 1924. It is a considerable reduction from the number in the years before that. Over a period of years the Tuskegee charts show a steady reduction, though last year was a discouraging exception, and it appears that this year will be about as bad.

Of the lynchings for the first half of this year, four were in Mississippi and none in Georgia. Mississippi holds the blackest record of all the States both for the number of lynchings and for the reversion to barbarism that has usually accompanied them. In past years Georgia was a close second, those two States usually holding the record. Yet during the four and a half year period from 1923 through the first half of 1927 Georgia has had only ten lynchings, while Mississippi has had 24.

The cause of this change is not hard to find. It can be found in the record of almost any State in the Union. North Carolina used to have lynchings. The prompt punishment of those who took part in the Needleman affair and of those who stormed the Asheville jail has decidedly cooled the ardor of those who are brave only when wreaking vengeance on those who cannot resist. In Georgia the courts and law officers have shown a greater determination to protect prisoners and to punish those who commit mob murder. During the past year one conspicuous lynching in Georgia was followed by the arrest, trial and conviction and sentence to long prison terms of a dozen members of the mob. The Greensboro News calls that "as thorough a job as was done in North Carolina in the Needleman case or in the Buncombe County cases." Since that experience Georgia has been free from what was formerly an habitual disgrace.

In Mississippi there has been no such effort on the part of law officers to resist the mobs, no such effort to defend prisoners, no such effort to bring to trial and to convict those who make an attack on the law itself. It is no wonder therefore that lynching continues in Mississippi. It will continue there until the decent element of the State shows its disapproval.

Virginia has been free of lynching in the first half of 1927. But the stain of the Wytheville affair of last summer has not been wiped out, nor has there been any apparent evidence on the part of the good people of that county of a desire that those who so disgraced their county and State be brought to trial and punished.

LONGMONT COLO. TIMES
JULY 13, 1927

[redacted] Institute records nine [redacted] in five states of South and [redacted] in first six months of year.

CLEVELAND, TENN., BANNER
JULY 14, 1927

NINE LYNCHINGS ARE [redacted] ECORDED THIS YEAR

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 14.—(U.P.)—Nine lynchings have been recorded by Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute's record department for the first [redacted] of the year 1927.

The same number occurred in 1925 and 1926, according to the statement. Mississippi led with four.

MOBILE, ALA., REGISTER
JULY 13, 1927

CENSUS ON LYNCHING

Nine Negroes Were Victims During Half Year Says Tuskegee Report.

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 12.—(AP)—Nine lynchings were recorded during the first half of 1927, by the department of records and research at Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute here.

All of the persons lynched were negroes, the statement said, and were distributed among the states as follows:

Arkansas 2; Louisiana 1; Mississippi 4; Missouri 1; and Texas 1.

The offenses charged were: Murder 4; attempted murder 2; rape 1; improper conduct 1; charge not reported 1; the institute's announcement states. The total number for the first half of this year equalled the figures for the first half of 1925-26 and was four more than the total for the first half of 1924. It was six less than the number for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the figures for the same period of 1922, and 27 less than the record for corresponding months of 1921.

INDEPENDENCE KS. REPORTER
JULY 15, 1927

Records on Lynchings By Tuskegee Institute

Tuskegee Institute, Alabama, July 15—According to records filed by this institute for the first six months of 1927, there were nine lynchings in the United States, the same number as the first six months of 1925 and 1926; four more than the same period for 1924, six less than the same period for 1923, twenty-one less than same period for 1922 and twenty-seven less than for the same period of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder 4, attempted murder, 2, rape 1, improper conduct, 1, charge not reported for, 1.

States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state: Arkansas 2, Louisiana 1, Mississippi 4, Missouri 1, Texas 1.

Lynchings-1927
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan.-June.

2579

2579

JACKSON, TENN., SUN
JULY 17, 1927

The Lynching Record.

It is highly gratifying in spite of the revival of masked band violence in certain sections of the South to know that during the first six months of this year there was no increase in the number of lynchings, according to the records compiled by Tuskegee Institute. The report shows that during the six months ending on June 30 there were nine lynchings. This is the same number for the same period of last year, and also for 1925. But it shows an increase over 1924. On the other hand, it is a decrease from 1923, 1922 and 1921.

Five states furnished all of the nine lynchings. There were four in Mississippi, two in Arkansas and one each in the states of Louisiana, Missouri and Texas. It is very much to be regretted that all of these are Southern states, but it is, on the other hand, a source of congratulation that Georgia, South Carolina and Florida, that have in the past been the chief offenders in the matter of mob law, did not have a single lynching.

Tennesseans may rejoice that this state escaped entirely. There is no black mark against our commonwealth on the lynching score. Tennessee has had cause in the past few years to congratulate itself that it has escaped mob violence.

Yet we are finding a revival in certain counties of the state of "night riding" and masked band depradations. Two men are under indictment in East Tennessee as members of a masked band of marauders. Thirteen are facing similar charges in a Middle Tennessee county. We are hoping that full and exact justice will be meted out to all those found guilty of violating the law. Floggings may lead to murder or other forms of lawlessness.

With reference to the causes of lynching the Nashville Tennessean very truthfully points out:

"The cause assigned for the nine lynchings bear out the contention often made in these columns that the so-called sex offense is responsible for comparatively few of the crimes of this character. Four of the lynchings were caused by murder; attempted murder claimed two victims; rape, one; improper conduct, one, and in one case the cause was not reported. Even assuming that improper conduct and the unreported case were both due to some sex crime, then we find that the reason that apologists offer for our unenviable lynching record in the South does not in fact exist. Sex crimes were responsible for only a third of the lynchings. Mobs bent on vengeance seldom inquire as to the nature of the crime; they are governed and incited by blood lust."

Fergus Falls, Minn., Journal
SATURDAY, JULY 16, 1927

The Tuskegee Institute at Alabama reports that there were nine lynchings in the United States for the first six months of 1927. All of the persons lynched were negroes. The number is the same as the number in the first six months of 1925 and 1926. It is four more than the number in the first six months of 1924; six less than for the same period in 1921; 21 less than for 1922; and 27 less than for the first six months of 1921. The figures go to show that lynching is not as popular as it was at one time. All of the lynchings this year have been in the southern states.

FROM
News
New Brunswick N J
JUL 13 1927

Lynching Record For 1927 Same As That of 1926

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, in the first six months of 1927 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is four more than the number five for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number fifteen for the first six months of 1923, twenty-one less than the number thirty for the first six months of 1922, and twenty-seven less than the number thirty-six for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were; Murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

FROM
Evening Post Sun
NEW YORK CITY
JUL 18 1927

Data on Lynchings.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: I send to you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find, according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research, that in the first six months of 1927 there were 9 lynchings. This number is the same as for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is 4 more than for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1. The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

ROBERT R. MOTON,
Principal.

Tuskegee Institute, Alabama, July 15.

GALVESTON, TEX.
Tribune
NOV 27 1927

son than ever before.

NEGRO BUSINESS LEAGUE TO HOLD MEMBERSHIP MEETIN

The Galveston branch of the Texas Negro Business and Laboring Men's Association will hold its annual membership meeting tomorrow night, according to C. W. Rice, president and general manager of the association.

Rice, who has just completed a tour of the industrial centers of the state in the interest of labor and living conditions among the colored people, will address the membership and the public on the subject, "Your Health and Your Job."

The association has maintained a branch office in Galveston, which conducts a free employment bureau and credit rating system.

Plans will be discussed at the meeting as to the conduct of the membership drive and the raising of funds to continue the activities of the association in Galveston during 1928.

CLEVELAND, O., NEWS
July 15, 1927

Less of One Disgrace.

IN the first half of 1927 nine persons were lynched, murdered by mobs organized for that purpose, in the United States. Five states, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri and Texas, shared the shame of those outbreaks of barbarity. Two victims were put to death in Arkansas and four in Mississippi. The other three states had one lynching apiece.

Black as this stain upon the record of the nation is it shows a great improvement within a comparatively short time. The savagery of mob killings was far more prevalent a quarter of a century ago.

This year's record, so far, indicates a total of eighteen lynchings in 1927. In 1917 there were thirty-eight and in 1907 the number was sixty-three. Ten years farther back, in 1897, the lynchings totaled 166,- and in 1892, when the population of the United States was not more than 65,000,000 against 118,000,000 or 119,000,000 now, no less than 255 persons were put to death by mobs in the way we call lynching.

In the light of these facts it is possible to take courage and continue to fight against the most brutal form of barbarism which disgraces America, in the hope that another quarter of a century, at most, may see it practically uprooted and ended forever.

JOHNSON CITY, TENN., CHRONICLE
JULY 15, 1927

lines of the
tem."

NINE LYNCHINGS FIRST 6 MONTHS OF PRESENT YEAR

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, in the first six months of 1927 there were 9 lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

JUL 16 1927

held in the Forum.

R. C. A.

Hartford, July 13, 1927.

THE LYNCHING RECORD.

Tuskegee Institute Principal Presents Figures for Six Months.

To the Editor of The Courant:—

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of the year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1927, there were 9 lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is four more than the number five for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The States in which the lynching occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

R. R. MOTON.

PRINCIPAL TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE.

Tuskegee, Ala., July 9, 1927.

FT WORTH, TEX, RECORD
JULY 13, 1927

Nine Lynchings in First Half of 1927

By Associated Press.

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 12.—Nine lynchings were recorded during the first half of 1927 by the department of records at Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute here.

All of the persons lynched were negroes, the statement said, and were distributed among the States as follows:

Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1, and Texas 1.

The offenses listed were: Murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The total number for the first half of this year equaled the figures for the first half of 1925-26 and was four more than the total for the first half of 1924. It was six less than the number for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the figures for the same period of 1922 and 27 less than the record for corresponding months of 1921.

ST JOSEPH MO NEWS PRESS
JULY 13, 1927

NINE LYNCHINGS RECORDED.

Deaths Were Inflicted by Mobs on Negroes in Five States During First Half of Year.

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 13.—(AP)—Nine lynchings were recorded during the first half of 1927 by the department of records and research at Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute here.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes, the statement said, and were distributed among the following states: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1, and Texas, 1.

ST. JOSEPH MO. GAZETTE
JULY 13, 1927

NINE LYNCHINGS SO FAR

Mississippi Leads in Number Committed First Half of Year With Four

Tuskegee, Ala., July 12. (AP)—Nine lynchings were recorded during the first half of 1927 by the department of records and research at Tuskegee normal and industrial institute here.

All of the persons lynched were negroes, the statement said, and were distributed among the following states: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; and Texas, 1.

DALLAS TEX. NEWS
JULY 14, 1927

Record Nine Lynchings In First Half of 1927

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 13 (AP)—Nine lynchings were recorded during the first half of 1927 by the department of records and research at Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute here.

All of the persons lynched were negroes, the statement said, and were distributed among the States as follows: Arkansas, 2, Louisiana 1, Mississippi 4, Missouri 1 and Texas 1.

The offenses listed were: Murder 4, attempted murder 2, rape 1, improper conduct 1, charge not reported 1.

The total number for the first half of the year equaled the figures for the first half of 1925-26, and was four more than the total for the first half of 1924. It was six less than the number for the first six months of 1923, twenty-one less than the figures for the same period of 1922 and twenty-seven less than the record for corresponding months of 1921.

ATLANTA, GA., CONSTITUTION
Wednesday, July 13, 1927

NINE LYNCHINGS RECORDED IN 1927 BY NEGRO SCHOOL

Tuskegee, Aa., July 12.—(AP)—Nine lynchings were recorded during the first half of 1927 by the department of records and research at Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute here.

All of the persons lynched were negroes, the statement said, and were distributed among the states as follows: Arkansas 2, Louisiana 1, Mississippi 4, Missouri 1 and Texas 1.

The offenses charged were: Murder 4, attempted murder 2, rape 1, improper conduct 1, charge not reported 1, the institute's announcement stated.

The total number for the first half of this year equaled the figures for the first half of 1925-26 and was four more than the total for the first half of 1924. It was six less than the number for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the figures for the same period of 1922 and 27 less than the record for corresponding months of 1921.

R. C. MO. DROVERS TELEGRAM
JULY 13, 1927

Nine Lynchings In Six Months.

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 13.—Nine lynchings have been recorded by the Tuskegee normal and industrial institute's record department for the first half of 1927. The same number occurred in 1925 and 1926, according to the statement.

NEWTON KS. KANSAN-REP.
JULY 14, 1927

Lynchings for First Six Months of 1927

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research in the first six months of 1927, there were 9 lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 227 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder 2; rape 1; improper conduct 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

FORT COLLINS COLO. EXPRESS
JULY 13, 1927

Tuskegee Institute records nine lynchings in five states of South and Southwest in first six months of year.

Winston Salem N. Journal
JUL 15 1927

Leads in Lynching

Tuskegee, Ala., — (UP) — Mississippi leads in 1927 lynchings, according to the announcement of the Tuskegee Negro Institute's record department.

Of nine lunchings recorded, four took place in Mississippi, Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Missouri 1 and Texas 1.

Roanoke Va News
JUL 16 1927

NINE LYNCHINGS THIS YEAR.

Nine lynchings for the first half of 1927 is the report of Tuskegee Institute, which for years has kept tally on the number of mob murders of the defenseless. The record does not include those shot down resisting arrest. It does not include various other killings. It limits lynching solely to instances where the mob takes the law into its own hands and acts as judge, jury and executioner; where the constituted authorities have been set at naught, the sheriff and law enforcement officers overborne or bought off, and the whole processes of justice held in contempt.

The nine lynchings for the first half of this year is the same number as for the first six months of 1926 and for the first half of 1925, and is slightly more than for the first half of 1924. It is a considerable reduction from the number in the years before that. Over a period of years the Tuskegee charts show a steady reduction, though last year was a discouraging exception, and it appears that this year will be about as bad.

Of the lynchings for the first half of this year, four were in Mississippi and none in Georgia. Mississippi holds the blackest record of all the States both for the number of lynchings and for the reversion to barbarism that has usually accompanied them. In past years Georgia was a close second, those two States usually holding the record. Yet during the four and a half year period from 1923 through the first half of 1927 Georgia has had only ten lynchings, while Mississippi has had 24.

The cause of this change is not hard to find. It can be found in the record of almost any State in the Union. North Carolina used to have lynchings. The prompt punishment of those who took part in the Needleman affair and of those who stormed the Asheville jail has decidedly cooled the ardor of those who are brave only when wreaking vengeance on those who cannot resist. In Georgia the courts and law officers have shown a greater determination to protect prisoners and to punish those who commit mob murder. During the past year one conspicuous lynching in Georgia was followed by the arrest, trial and conviction and sentence to long prison terms of a dozen members of the mob. The Greensboro News calls that "as thorough a job as was done in North Carolina in the Needleman case or in the Buncombe County cases." Since that experience Georgia has been free from what was formerly an habitual disgrace.

In Mississippi there has been no such effort on the part of law officers to resist the mobs, no such effort to defend prisoners, no such effort to bring to trial and to convict those who make an attack on the law itself. It is no wonder therefore that lynching continues in Mississippi. It will continue there until the decent element of the State shows its disapproval.

Virginia has been free of lynching in the first half of 1927. But the stain of the Wytheville affair of last summer has not been wiped out, nor has there been any apparent evidence on the part of the good people of that county of a desire that those who so disgraced their county and State be brought to trial and punished.

Republican
Watseka, Ill
7-20-27

Nine Lynchings in South in First Half of Year

Tuskegee, Ala.—Nine lynchings were recorded during the first half of 1927 by the department of records and research at Tuskegee Normal and Industrial institute here. All of the persons lynched were negroes, the statement said, and were distributed among the states as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, and Texas 1.

Lynchings-1927
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan. — June.

2580

MERIDIAN. MISS.. STAR
JULY 13, 1927

Tuskegee, Ala.—Nine lynchings were recorded during the first half of 1927 by Tuskegee Institute here. All of those lynched were negroes, the statement said, and were distributed as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1, and Texas 1.

Thomasville Ga Enterprise
JUL 13 1927

INCREASING NEGRO HUNTS

The number of negro hunts, so-called, is increasing. There are accounts of several within the past week and all of them, with one exception, are the result of a fiendish effort to attack white women. They have occurred in Arkansas, in the Carolinas and in Florida. There are other states involved, in similar attempts and wherever it occurs it never fails to arouse madness.

If the negro men, attempting the crime of rape on white women are canght, there is nearly always an organized effort made to prevent mob violence. There are some white men, who would willingly go before the courts of the land and in extenuation for the crime of lynching state that they would prefer hanging themselves than to have a women face the ordeal of a trial and the witness stand in a case of the kind. So they lynch, but in nine cases out of ten it is a form of natural passion that takes no heed for anything except the desire to wreak summary vengeance on the perpetrator.

In the report for lynchings for the first six months of 1927 the Tuskegee Institute says there were nine. This is the same as for the first six months of 1925 and 1926. It is four more than for a similar period in 1924 and many less than in tne two previous years. All of the persons lynched were negroes and the offenses charged by the mob or the law were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1. One was not reported.

It may be safely stated that the effort to eradicate lynching in the South is bearing fruit. There is and has been an effort to gradually reach the point where it will be prevented by creating a sentiment that there is but one crime for which there is any excuse. With that in the forefront there would be a change in the attitude of many people. There will be a long time intervening before the rape of a white woman by a negro will not arouse the most intense passion that white blood can ever experience. But there is in this record evidence of only one rape, while the others are crimes less horrible and less vicious. What is the answer there and why the tendency to take life, when there is no reason for doubting the integrity of the courts, especially where public sentiment might in a measure control the efforts of few attorneys to delay and flout justice.

HOUSTON TEX. POST
JULY 13, 1927

Nine Lynched During First Half of 1927

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 12.—(AP) Nine lynchings were recorded during the first half of 1927 by the department of record and research at Tuskegee normal and industrial institute here.

All of the persons lynched were negroes, the statement said, and were distributed among the states as follows: Arkansas 2, Louisiana 1, Mississippi 4, Missouri 1 and Texas 1.

FLORENCE, ALA., TIMES
JULY 13, 1927

NINE LYNCHINGS RECORDED

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 13.—Nine lynchings have been recorded by Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute's record department for the first half of 1927. The same number occurred in 1925 and 1926, according to the statement. Mississippi led with four.

THE LYNCHING RECORD

The lynching record in the United States for the first six months of 1927 shows improvement, on the whole. While the number of lynchings—nine—is the same as for the first six months of 1925 and 1926, it is far less than for the same periods in 1921, 1922 and 1923. But so long as a lynch list remains, it is a blot on our civilized name.

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1927, there were 9 lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is 4 more than the number 5, for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri 1; Texas, 1.

DENISON TEX. HERALD
JULY 14, 1927

NINE LYNCHINGS FOR FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1927

NUMBER IS SAME AS FOR CORRESPONDING PERIOD TWO PREVIOUS YEARS.

Tuskegee Institute, Ala., July 14.—Records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research show that in the first six months of 1927 there were nine lynchings. This is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is four more than the five for the first six months of 1924, six less than the 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., ADVERTISER
JULY 13, 1927

NINE LYNCHINGS IN SOUTH IN 1927

Mississippi Leads With Four; Arkansas Two; Equals Last Year Figures

TUSKEGEE, ALA., July 12.—(AP)—Nine lynchings were recorded during the first half of 1927 by the department of records and research at Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute here.

All of the persons lynched were negroes, the statement said, and were distributed among the states as follows:

Arkansas 2; Louisiana 1; Mississippi 4; Missouri 1 and Texas 1.

The offenses charged were: murder 4; attempted murder 2; rape 1; improper conduct 1; charge not reported, the institute's announcement stated.

The total number for the first half of this year equalled the figures for the first half of 1925-26 and was four more than the total for the first half of 1924. It was six less than the number for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the figures for the same period of 1922 and 27 less than the record for corresponding months of 1921.

ARKADELPHIA, ARK., SIFTINGS-HER.
JULY 13, 1927

Lynching Records For the First Six Months of 1927

The following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year was sent to The Siftings Herald by R. R. Morhon, principal of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, a school founded by Booker T. Washington, Tuskegee, Alamaba, for the training of colored young men and women.

"I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1927, there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is four more than the number five for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1921.

"All of the persons lynched were were murder, four; attempted murder, two; rape, one; improper conduct, one; charge not reported, one.

"The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

PRESCOTT, ARK., NEWS
JULY 13, 1927

NINE LYNCHINGS REPORTED FOR FIRST 6 MONTHS OF YEAR

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research in the first six months of 1927 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offences charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas 2; Louisiana 1; Mississippi 4; Missouri 1; Texas 1

BUTLER, MO., DEMOCRAT
JULY 14, 1927

Lynchings for Six Months of 1927

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research in the first six months of 1927, there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas 1.

NAVASOTA, TEX., EXAMINER
JULY 14, 1927

ECORD NINE LYNCHINGS IN FIRST HALF OF 1927

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 14.—Nine nchings were recorded during the st half of 1927 by the department of ecords and research at Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute here.

All of the persons lynched were negroes, the statement said, and were distributed among the states as follows: Arkansas, 2, Louisiana 1, Mississippi 4, Missouri 1 and Texas 1.

The offenses listed were: Murder 4 attempted murder 2, rape 1, improper conduct 1, charge not reported 1.

The total number for the first half of the year equaled the figures for the first half of 1925-26, and was more than the total for the first half of 1924. It was six less than the number for the first six months of 1923, twenty-one less than the figures for the same period of 1922 and twenty-seven less than the record for corresponding months of 1921.

MOBILE, ALA., NEWS-ITEM
JULY 13, 1927

TUSKEGEE RECORDS NINE LYNCHINS

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 13.—Nine lynchings have been recorded by Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute's record department for the first half year of 1927.

The same number occurred in 1925 and 1926, according to the statement. Mississippi led with four.

PUEBLO, COL., STAR-JOURNAL
JULY 13, 1927

Tuskegee institute records nine lynchings in five states of south and southwest in first six months of year.

MANHATTAN, KS., MERCURY
JULY 14, 1927

NINE NEGROES LYNCHED IN LAST SIX MONTHS

Tuskegee Institute Statistics Show Same Number Victims as Last Year and Year Before.

Tuskegee Institute, Ala., July 9—(Special)—According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1927, there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 21 less than the numbers 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six monts of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., AGE-HERALD
JULY 13, 1927

9 LYNCHINGS IN 5 STATES REPORTED

Victims Were Negroes, Tuskegee Institute Report Shows

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 12.—(AP)—Nine lynchings were recorded during the first half of 1927 by the Department of Records and Research at Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute here.

All of the persons lynched were negroes, the statement said, and were distributed among the states as follows: Arkansas two; Louisiana, one; Mississippi, four; Missouri, one, and Texas, one.

The offenses charged were: Murder, four; attempted murder, two; rape, one; improper conduct, one;

ANNISTON, ALA., STAR
JULY 14, 1927

Lynchings Continue At Same Rate For Three Consecutive Years

Lynchings recorded so far this year by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute show that no progress is being made toward eliminating this inhuman form of exacting justice. Still it might be some satisfaction to note that the number of lynchings have not increased over the same period in 1925 and 1926, the records showing the same number for each year.

Mississippi is shown to have furnished four of the nine lynchings reported in the first half of 1927. That record should cause authorities of the state to devote every known means toward an effort to prevent a recurrence of a like number of outrages in the future.

ROCK ISLAND (ILL.) ARGUS
MONDAY, JULY 18, 1927.

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee institute, there were nine lynchings in the first six months of the present year. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925 and 1926. It is four more than the total recorded for the first six months of 1924, six less than the total recorded for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the total recorded for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the total for the first six months of 1921. All of the persons lynched during the first half of the present year were negroes.

OPELIKA, ALA., NEWS
JULY 14, 1927

ALA. HAS CLEAN SLATE.

Tuskegee, Ala., July 14.—Nine lynchings were recorded during the first half of 1927 by the department of records and research at Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Insttute here.

All the persons lynched were negroes, the statement said, and were distributed among the states as follows:

Arkansas 2; Louisiana 1; Mississippi 4; Missouri 1; and Texas 1.

Scottsboro Daily Citizen
JULY 15, 1927

Nine Lynched First Six Months

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 11.—The following statement regarding lynchings was made public today by Dr. Robert E. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Institute:

"I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research that in the first six months of 1927, there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is 4 more than the the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

"All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

"The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1."

ENNIS, TEX., NEWS
JULY 14, 1927

RECORD NINE LYNCHINGS IN FIRST HALF OF 1927

TUSKEGEE, Ala. July 14.—Nine lynchings were recorded during the first half of 1927 by the department of records and research at Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute here.

All of the persons lynched were negroes, the statement said, and were distributed among the States as follows: Arkansas 2, Louisiana 1, Mississippi 4, Missouri 1 and Texas 1.

The offenses listed were: Murder 4, attempted murder 2, rape 1, improper conduct 1, charge not reported 1.

PINE BLUFF ARK. GRAPHIC
JULY 14, 1927

NINE LYNCHINGS IN U. S. DURING FIRST SIX MONTHS

All Were Negroes; Same Number For First Half of Years 1925 And 1926

Special To The Graphic

Tuskegee, Ala., July 13—Nine negroes were lynched in the United States the first six months of 1927, records compile by the Tuskegee Institute here reveal. This comprises the entire list of lynchings in America the first half of the year.

The total is the same number of lynchings in the country for the first six months of 1926 and also for 1925. It is four more than has been lynched up to July 1, 1924; six less than the total to the same date in 1923; 21 less than the total up to July 1, 1922 and 27 less than the total to the same period in 1920.

The offenses charged against the negroes lynched were murder, 4; attempted murder 2; rape 1; improper conduct 1; and no charge reported. 1

Mississippi led the list in number with four lynchings. Arkansas had two. Louisiana, Missouri and Texas each had one.

The total number for the first half of the year equaled the figures for the first half of 1925-26 and was four more than the total for the first half of 1924. It was six less than the number for the first six months of 1923, twenty one less than the figures for the same period of 1922 and twenty seven less than the record for coresponding months of 1921.

Lynchings- 1927

Reports on Sent Press.

Jan. June.

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EL DORADO KS. TIMES
JULY 14, 1927

THE LYNCHING RECORD

The lynching record in the United States for the first six months of 1927 shows improvement, on the whole. While the number of lynchings—nine—is the same as for the first six months of 1925 and 1926, it is far less than for the same periods in 1924, 1922 and 1923. But so long as a lynch list remains, it is a blot on our civilized name.

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1927, there were 9 lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is 4 more than the number 5, for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge no reported 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri 1; Texas 1.

SAN ANTONIO TEX. NEWS
JULY 15, 1927

GEORGIA, that for many years past has been at or near the top of the infamous lynch-murder roll, is conspicuous by its absence from the Tuskegee Institute's recapitulation for the first half of 1927. Whether the impressive lesson read by the Coffee County court when, last fall, it sentenced 12 men to terms varying from four years to life, for participation in such a crime, had anything to do with this record, is problematical; but the assumption that it did exert such an influence is warranted. That example and its encouraging result suggest means by which the lynching evil may be mitigated, if not eradicated.

AROUSED CIVIC CONSCIENCE

When judges and juries generally display enough courage to punish these atrocious crimes as the law directs and as the guilty persons deserve, lynchings will be few. To be sure, Georgia—in common with several sister States—since then has been plagued with a series of cowardly masked-flogging outrages; but the authorities are prosecuting these offenders, also. Last spring a powerful church organization in that State called on the Governor to bring to justice the perpetrators of such foul crimes. These developments indicate an awakened civic conscience.

SAN DIEGO, CAL., TRIBUNE
JULY 13, 1927

John F. Malley, Springfield, Mass., defeats Lee Merriweather, St. Louis, for grand exalted ruler at Elks convention in Cincinnati.

Tuskegee Institute records nine lynchings in five states of south and southwest in first six months of year.

Senator James A. Reed says senatorial investigation of Pennsylvania election will go on despite federal

JOHNSON CITY, TENN., STAFF
JULY 15, 1927

NINE LYNCHINGS FIRST 6 MONTHS OF PRESENT YEAR

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, in the first six months of 1927 there were 9 lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

All of the persons lynched were negroes, the statement said, and were distributed among the states as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1, and Texas, 1.

The offenses listed were: Murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The total number for the first half of this year equaled the figures for the first half of 1925-26 and was four more than the total for the first half of 1924. It was six less than the number for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the figures for the same period of 1922 and 27 less than the record for corresponding months of 1921.

CHILLICOTHE, MO., TRIBUNE
JULY 14, 1927

NINE LYNCHINGS DURING FIRST 6 MONTHS OF 1927

ALL OF THE VICITMS OF MOB LAW WERE NEGROES, SURVEY SHOWS.

Mississippi Led With Four Lynchings and Arkansas Was the Runner-Up With Two; Missouri Contributed Only One.

By the Associated Press.

Tuskege, Ala., July 14.—Nine lynchings were recorded during the first half of 1927 by the department of records and research at Tuskegee Normal and Industrial institute here.

Lynchings- 1927

Reports on, Sent Press.

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FORT COLLINS COLO. EXPRESS
JULY 19, 1927

Nine Negroes Were Lynched This Year

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 18.—According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research in the first six months of 1927, there were 9 lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1. The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

LINCOLN NEB. STATE JOURNAL
JULY 19, 1927

Robert R. Moton, principal of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute of Alabama finds that in the first six months of 1927 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is four more than the number five for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number fifteen for the first six months of 1923, twenty-one less than the number thirty for the first six months of 1922, and twenty seven less than the number thirty-six for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, four; attempted murder, two; rape, one; improper conduct, one; charge not reported, one. The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, two; Louisiana, one; Mississippi, four; Missouri, one; Texas, one.

BATON ROUGE, LA., STATE TIMES
JULY 12, 1927

Nine Negroes of South Lynched in Last Few Months

Tuskegee, Ala., July 12.—Tuskegee Institute's report of lynchings issued today shows that nine negroes were lynched since the last

Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1, and Texas, 1.

The offenses charged were: Murder 4; attempted murder 2; rape 1; improper conduct 1; charge not reported 1; the institute's statement said.

FROM HERALD
ROCHESTER, N. Y.

Says Nine Lynchings Took Place in South This Year

To the Editor.

Sir: I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of the year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institution in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1927, there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is four more than the number five for the first six months of 1924 six less than the number fifteen for the first six months of 1923, twenty-one less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and twenty-seven less than the number thirty-six for the six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were murder, four; attempted murder, two; rape, one; improper conduct, one; charge not reported, one.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, two; Louisiana, one; Mississippi, four; Missouri, one; Texas, one.

R. R. MOTON.

Tuskegee, Alabama.

NEW ORLEANS, LA., STATES
JULY 13, 1927

Tuskegee Reports That 9 Negroes Are Lynched

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 12.—(By A. P.)—Tuskegee Institute's report of lynchings issued today shows that nine negroes were lynched since the last report: Arkansas 2; Louisiana 1; Mississippi 4 Missouri 1 and Texas 1.

The offenses charged were: Murder 4; attempted murder 2; rape 1 improper conduct 1; charge not reported 1, the institute's statement said.

Bradley, S. Dak., Advertiser
FRIDAY, JULY 22, 1927

Nine Negro Lynchings Recorded.

Tuskegee, Ala. — Nine lynchings were recorded in the first half of 1927 by the department of records and research at Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute here.

Morning

OMAHA NEBR. BEE
JULY 18, 1927

EDMUND R. BRUMBAUGH.

Record of Lynchings.

Tuskegee Institute, Ala.— To the Editor: I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find, according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research that in the first six months of 1927 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is four more than the number five for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follow: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1, and Texas, 1.

R. R. MOTON, Principal.

TOPEKA KS. JOURNAL
JULY 19, 1927

THE YEAR'S LYNCHINGS.

The Mississippi flood did not interfere with the harvest of lynchings in the south for the first six months of the year. According to the records of the Tuskegee institute, the colored school founded by Booker T. Washington, there were nine lynchings in the United States in that period. The number is the same as in the first six months of 1925 and the first six months of 1924, when there was no flood to distract the white gentry from their usual pursuits.

All of the persons lynched this year were negroes.

The lynchings occurred in the following states: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

The offenses charged against the victims were: Murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; "improper conduct," 1; not specified, 1. In this tabulation, the fact that rape occurs only once is notable, as the southern defense of lynching is usually based on the imagined necessity of restraining what the southerners suppose to be the peculiar carnality of the black people. During the same period, of course white men have committed all the crimes with which the colored men were charged in these instances. Lynching does not result from abhorrence of crime; it results generally from the hatred of another race, which in the localities where lynching flourishes most, is politically and economically helpless.

SHREVEPORT LA. TIMES
JULY 16, 1927

DR. R. R. MOTON ANNOUNCES RECORD LYNCHINGS DURING PRESENT YEAR

SUPERIOR WHITE AMERICANS HANG, WITHOUT TRIAL, 9 BLACK AMERICANS

MISSOURI LEADS WITH 4; LOUISIANA LYNCHES 1, ACCORDING TO RECORD

Reports emanating from the department of Records and Research of Tuskegee Institute, Alabama, reveal the fact that nine persons, all Negroes, were lynched during the first six months of 1927, which is the same number lynched durnig the first six months of 1925 and 1926.

Only one of the lynched victims was charged with the violation of the unwritten law, rape. The other victims were charged with murder, attempted murder, improper conduct, while no charge was made against one.

The report for immediate release from Dr. R. R. Moton follows:

Editor, The Sun

Dear Sir:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1927, there were 9 lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is four more than the number (5) for the first six months of 1924. 6 less than the number (15) for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number (30) for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number (36) for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The state in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

Yours very truly,

R. R. MOTON, Principal.

NEWS
Florence S C
JUL 19 1927

THAT—There were 21 less lynchings in the six months just ended than in 1921. As it was there were nine lynchings too many. A newspaper man's quick thinking saved a Florida negro last night. A crowd never thinks.

NEW ORLEANS, LA., PICAYUNE
JULY 13, 1927

LYNCHING TOLL BARED

(By The Associated Press)

Tuskegee, Ala., July 12.—Tuskegee Institute's report of lynchings issued today shows that nine negroes were lynched since the last report. Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1 and Texas, 1.

FREMONT NEB. TRIBUNE
JULY 18, 1927

Lynching Record

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, ALABAMA, July 9, 1927.—Editor Fremont Tribune: I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee institute in the department of records and research that in the first six months of 1927, there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is four more than the number five for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were, murder, four; attempted murder, two; rape, one; improper conduct, one; charge not reported, one.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas two; Louisiana, one; Mississippi four; Missouri, one; Texas, one.

Yours very truly,
R. R. MOTON
Principal.

BIRMINGHAM ALA. AGE (wk.)
AUGUST 6, 1927

TUSKEGEE RECORDS NINE LYNCHINGS

LYNCHINGS

Tuskegee Institute, Ala., July 20.—According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1927, there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is four more than the number five for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number fifteen for the first six months of 1923, twenty-one less than the number thirty for the first six months of 1922, and twenty-seven less than the number thirty-six for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynching occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri 1; Texas, 1.

Owen, Wis., Enterprise
THURSDAY, JULY 28, 1927

Nine Negro Lynchings Recorded.

Tuskegee, Ala. — Nine lynchings were recorded in the first half of 1927 by the department of records and research at Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute here.

CORTLAND (N.Y.) STANDARD
July 28, 1927.

Lynching Curve Turns Upward

There were 29 lynchings in 1926 according to the Tuskegee Institute. This is an increase of 13 over 1925. All of the lynchings took place in Southern states, and in the single state of Florida eight persons or half of the total number lynched in the entire country in the previous year, were put to death by mobs. Seven were lynched in Texas, four in Mississippi, three in South Carolina, two in Arkansas, and one each in Georgia, Kentucky, Tennessee 'New Mexico and Virginia.

This increase in mob violence, said the Committee on Race Relations of the Federa Council of Churches in a report prepared several weeks ago, "re e ents the everest setback s nce 1922 in the campaign to marshal the churches against lynching." It also represents a severe setback to the press and all other forces hat have been srtiving to reduce this evi, by which death sentences are imposed and executed without judge or jury, without testimony or pleadings, other than the hopeless pleadings of the terrified and helpless victim. In 1925 there were fewer lynchings than there had been in any prior year over a long period, and it seemed that under the influence of enlightened public opinion this disgrace was gradually disappearing. But the 1926 record tends to remove any such misconception.

Nothing that transpired in that year, during which other kinds of "organized crime" continued rampant, is more deplorable. The contempt for real law shown by those who administer mob law is more complete than that displayed by the professional criminal, being a manifestation of a belief that the law of the mob is superior to that of tribunals of justice. Two women were among the 29 victims of mob violence. The only bright aspect of the Tuskegee report is that courageous officers prevented lynchings in 33 instances, and nine members of lynching parties received prison sentences, one in Georgia being sentenced for life.

It is to be hoped that the end of 1927 will see not a further increase in lynching, but a marked increase in the convictions of lynchers, and in the length of sentences imposed on them.

News
Suffolk-Va.
AUG 5 19

LYNCHINGS

The lynchings in the United States for the first six months of this year totalled nine, the same as last year. Is our national lynching "stabilized" at that new level?

Regrettable as every one of the lynchings was, the figure represents a great gai nover old records. When the past shame of the United States in this regard is considered, much satisfaction may be felt in reducing the number so low, comparatively, and holding it there. It is a triumph for law and order, in a country which is not so lawless as it is often painted.

No wonder lynchings diminish, when such a breed of public officials is developing in southern cities as was demonstrated not long ago in Tampa, when a mob tried to lynch a prisoner. Every such manful stand on the part of public authority is a victory for civilization.

LEXINGTON, KY., LEADER
JULY 20, 1927

THE LYNCHING RECORD

The Department of Records and Research at Tuskegee Institute has just published the record of lynchings for the past six months. There were nine of these crimes committed, precisely the number for the first six months of 1925 and 1926. This is four more than the number for the first half of 1924, but six less than for the first half of 1923. In 1922 there were 30 lynchings in the first six months of the year, and 36 in the first half of 1921. This is definitely encouraging, of course, but so long as lynchings occur anywhere and in any circumstances it is an evidence that the dread disease exists and that while not so virulent or widespread as in former years may become so again. There are diseases of the physical body which have a similar history, which are for a long while practically quiescent and then break forth with renewed energy and violence.

It is somewhat difficult to say whether educational processes are eradicating lynching or whether it is being repressed by sterner administration of the laws. But it may be assumed that where officers of the law and the courts of a jurisdiction punish promptly and impartially those who are found to be responsible for such crimes against the law of the land and the interests of government this in itself is an evidence of more enlightened public sentiment and indicates that education is improving matters.

In the South there is a more marked disposition to apprehend and punish those who take part in lynchings. In a number of cases convictions have been obtained against those who have been shown to have been members of mobs, and they have been sentenced to prison terms in some instances of long duration.

Just now men are being tried in a number of localities in Georgia for having participated, so it is charged, in crimes against the persons of men and women who have been whipped severely by bands of masked men.

All the nine persons lynched in the past six months have been Negroes. The offenses charged were murder four; attempted murder, two; rape, one; improper conduct, one, and charge not reported, one. The States in which these mob outrages occurred were Arkansas Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri and Texas. Two cases occurred in Arkansas and four in Mississippi. In the other States there was one each.

No State can regard itself as wholly civilized in which these outbreaks of barbarism occur from time to time. This does not mean that there are not large numbers of highly educated, refined and humane people in these communities. But certainly if a substantial majority of the people of any community are sufficiently advanced in their social evolution toward the ideal state of human relationships and in their convictions about justice and righteousness mob outrages could not occur. If in every such case the law was promptly and fully vindicated against those who trample upon it, and it was known that such incidents would not be tolerated, crimes of this character would cease.

But there is latent in many communities a feeling more or less widespread that there is justification under certain conditions for these extra-judicial and nearly always savage executions. A surprisingly large number of persons secretly approve of the mob if the circumstances are of a certain extreme character and public feeling is aroused to a particular pitch.

But in a civilized country the mob has no more place than has the thumbscrew and the rack of mediaeval torture chambers or the voodoo rites of darkest Africa. Those who take the law into their own hands strike at the foundations of public order and confess that they do not believe in self-government and the institutions of democracy.

FROM
New Leader
NEW YORK CITY
7/23/27

U. S. LYNCHING RECORD FOR 1927 IS EQUAL TO TO THAT OF OTHER YEARS

TUSKEGEE, Alabama.—According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the first six months of 1927, there were 9 lynchings. This number is the same as for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

FROM
DENVER, COLO.
7/13/27

Tuskegee Institute records nine lynchings in five states of the south and southwest in first six months of the year.

Morrisonville, Wis. Tribune
SATURDAY, JULY 23, 1927

The Lynchings in South in First Half of Year

Tuskegee, Ala.—Nine lynchings were recorded during the first half of 192 by the department of records and research at Tuskegee Normal and Industrial institute here. All of the persons lynched were Negroes, the offenses charged were distributed among the states as follows: Arkansas, 2 Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri 1, and Texas 1.

Lynchings-1927
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan. - June.

2583

Telat
Blue - Ket
JUL 27 1927

LYNCHING RECORD FOR THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1927

The following letter is sent us by R. R. Morton, principal of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute founded by the late Booker T. Washington:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1927, there were 9 lynchings.

This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921

All of the persons lynched were Negroes The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1 improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows, Arkansas, 2; Louisiana 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

CLARKSBURG, W. VA.
Telegram
JUL 14 1927

The Lynching Record

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE down in Alabama continues to inform the country about lynchings and its latest periodic statement thereon, covering the first six months of this year, has just come to hand, from R. R. MOTON, principal.

According to the records compiles in its department of records and research, there were nine lynchings during the time stated. That is the same number for the first half of 1925 and 1926 each.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were murder, four; attempted murder, two; rape, one; improper conduct, one; charge not reported, one.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, two; Louisians, one; Mississippi, four; Missouri, one; Texas, one.

The low record for the first half year periods was attained in 1924 when there were only five lynchings. The record for the last three like half year periods was exceeded on an ascending scale back to 1921 when there were thirty-six.

ALBANY, GA.-HERALD
JUL 12 1927

SIX MONTHS LYNCHINGS.

Dr. R. R. Moton, president of Tuskegee Institute, sends out a report on the lynching record for the first six months of 1927. "I find," says Dr. Moton, "according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1927, there were 9 lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921."

All the persons lynched were negroes, though a number of white persons have been flogged. The alleged offenses of the nine persons lynched were: Murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1. The states in which lynchings occurred are listed as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

It is to be hoped that Georgia has been removed from the list of states in which lynch law survives. There was but one lynching in this state in 1926, and the perpetrators of that crime were apprehended, vigorously prosecuted and sent to prison for long terms, the ringleader drawing a merited life sentence. Coffee County's example has had a most salutary effect, and the time seems to have passed when mobs in this state are justified in expecting that their crimes will be ignored.

The day of lynchings may not have passed in Georgia, but the time has passed when the law and society can be expected not put forth vigorous efforts to bring lynchers to justice.

BRUNSWICK GA., News
JUL 12 1927

NINE LYNCHINGS PAST SIX MONTHS

(By Associated Press.)

Tuskegee, Ala., July 12.—There were nine lynchings during the first half of 1927, the department of records and research at Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute announced today.

All of the persons lynched were negroes, the statement said, and were distributed among the states as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1, and Texas, 1.

Charlotte, N. C. News
JUL 13 1927

Nine Lynchings in Six Months

Tuskegee, Ala., July 13.—(AP)—Nine lynchings were recorded during the first half of 1927 by the Department of Records and Research at Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute here.

All of the persons lynched were negroes, the statement said, and were distributed among the States as follows: Arkansas 2, Louisiana 1, Mississippi 4, Missouri 1, and Texas 1.

Mason, Ga. TELEGRAPH
JUL 13 1927

NINE LYNCHED SINCE JAN. 1

All Were Negroes, Tuskegee Investigation Shows

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 12 (AP). There were nine lynchings during the first half of 1927, the department of records and research at Tuskegee Normal and Industrial institute announced today.

All of the persons lynched were negroes, the statement says, and were distributed among the states as follows: Arkansas 2; Louisiana 1; Mississippi 4; Missouri 1, and Texas 1.

The offenses charged were: Murder four, attempted murder 2, rape 1, improper conduct 1, charge not reported 1, the institute's announcement stated.

The total number for the first half of this year equalled the figures for the first half of 1925-26 and was four more than the total for the first half of 1924. It was six less than the number for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the figure for the same period of 1922 and 27 less than the record for corresponding months of 1921.

Birmingham, Ala., Age-Herald

9 LYNCHINGS IN 5 STATES REPORTED

Victims Were Negroes, Tuskegee Institute Report Shows

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 12.—(AP)—Nine lynchings were recorded during the first half of 1927 by the Department of Records and Research at Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute here.

All of the persons lynched were negroes, the statement said, and were distributed among the states as follows: Arkansas two; Louisiana, one; Mississippi, four; Missouri, one, and Texas, one.

The offenses charged were: Murder, four; attempted murder, two; rape, one; improper conduct, one; charge not reported, one, the institute's announcement stated.

The total number for the first half of this year equalled the figures for the first half of 1925-26 and was four more than the total for the first half of 1924. It was six less than the number for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the figures for the same period of 1922 and 27 less than the record for corresponding months of 1921.

McLaughlin, S. D., Messenger
FRIDAY, JULY 22, 1927

Nine Negro Lynchings Recorded.

Tuskegee, Ala. — Nine lynchings were recorded in the first half of 1927 by the department of records and research at Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute.

SAVANNAH, GA., Press.

JUL 12 1927

No Lynchings In Georgia for First Six Months

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 12.—R. R. Moton, principal of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, issues the following on lynchings for the first six months of 1927:

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research that in the first six months of 1927 there were nine lynchings. This is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is four more than the number five for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number fifteen for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; assault, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

JUL 12 1927

PENSACOLA, FLA. News

No Lynchings In Florida for Past 6 Months

Robert R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, the institution which is doing so much for the colored race in the way of education, has sent to The News a record of lynchings for the first six months of the year, giving none of such occurrences to the state of Florida. He summorized and commented upon the practice of mobs, and made up the record with the following:

The Lynching Record.

Research that in the first six months of 1927, there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the year 1925 and 1926; it is four more than the number five for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1023, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were Murder, 4; attempted murder, 2 rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas. 1.

Rock Hill, S.C.

Herald

JUL 15 1927

THE LYNCHING RECORD

Lynchings for the first half of the year show no decrease over the same period last year, according to latest figures compiled by Tuskegee. This is deplorable, but it is gratifying to note that South Carolina's record thus far this year is clean.

This speaks well for the Palmetto State. We hope her slate will be kept clean the balance of the year and many years to come.

Much credit must be given Governor Richards for the state's good record, for he has not failed to call out troops when a lynching seemed even remotely threatened.—Greenville Piedmont.

OBSERVER
HOBOKEN, N. J.

JUL 15 1927

LYNCHINGS CONTINUE.

Lynchings have not decreased in the first six months of the year since 1924. The Tuskegee Institute records nine lynchings in the first six months of this year. This equals the totals of the years 1926 and 1925. It exceeds by four the number in the first six months of 1924, the year in which public sentiment was so pronounced against mob law that there was a marked reduction in lynchings. The nine victims of mobs this year were negroes. Lynchings should be stopped. Many innocent persons have been slain by crazed mobs.

PASSAIC, N. J.

News

JUL 28 1927

LYNCHINGS

The lynchings in the United States for the first six months of this year totalled nine, the same as last year. Is our national lynching "stabilized" at that new level?

Regrettable as every one of the lynchings was, the figure represents a great gain over old records. When the past shame of the United States in this regard is considered, much satisfaction may be felt in reducing the number so low, comparatively, and holding it there. It is a triumph for law and order, in a country which is not so lawless as it is often painted.

No wonder lynchings diminish, when such a breed of public officials is developing in Southern cities as was demonstrated not long ago in Tampa, when a mob tried to lynch a prisoner. Every such manful stand on the part of public authority is a victory for civilization.

TRIBUNE
Liverpool
AUG 2 1927

Lynchings

The lynchings in the United States for the first six months of this year totalled nine, the same as last year. Is our national lynching "stabilized" at that new level?

Regrettable as every one of the lynchings was, the figure represents a great gain over old records. When the past shame of the United States in this regard is considered, much satisfaction may be felt in reducing the number so low, comparatively, and holding it there. It is a triumph for law and order, in a country which is not so lawless as it is often painted.

No wonder lynchings diminish, when such public officials are developing in southern cities as was demonstrated not long ago in Tampa, when a mob tried to lynch a prisoner. Every such manful stand on the part of public authority is a victory for civilization.

Providence, R. I.

7/13/8

Tuskegee Institute records nine lynchings in five States of South and Southwest in first six months of year.

Shreveport La Times

JULY 29, 1927

JH

Lynching Record for First Six Months In 1927.

Atlanta, Ga.—According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research in the first six months of 1927 there were 9 lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder 4, attempted murder 2, rape 1, improper conduct 1, charge not reported 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas 2, Louisiana 1, Mississippi 4, Missouri 1, Texas 1. R. R. MOTON

BELLEVILLE ILL MSGR CATH
FRIDAY, AUGUST 12, 1927.

LYNCHING RECORD
FOR SIX MONTHS

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the first six months of 1927, there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is four more than the number five for the first six months of 1924. The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are asfollows: Arkansas 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri. 1: Texas. 1

Lynchings- 1927
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan. - June

2584

Anaconda (Mont.) Standard
July 25, 1927

FEWER LYNCHINGS, MORE FLOGGINGS.

Statistics compiled at Tuskegee Institute show a slow and unsteady decrease in the number of the country's lynchings. In the first six months of 1927 there were nine. This number is the same as for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is 4 more than for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than for the first six months of 1921. All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1. The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1. But if lynching in the South is declining, a flogging epidemic is raging. Incomplete returns show that thus far this year there have been 13 in Alabama, two in Florida and five in Georgia. All but four of the victims have been whites. Both sexes are represented in the list, and immoral conduct has been the charge preferred in nearly every case. Success in controlling the epidemic has not yet been attained. The chief difficulty encountered by the prosecuting lawyers is that of establishing the identity of a hooded flogger beyond a reasonable doubt. Ku Klux Klan leaders deny emphatically that the Klan sanctions, much less authorizes and promotes, these brutalities. They attribute them to individuals who, banding together, adopt the Klan's vesture to protect themselves from identification.

Jamesville Fla
-Eagle-

AUG 11 1927

Lynching Record First 6 Months 1927

Accordingto the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, in the first six months of 1927, there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is four more than the number five for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number fifteen for the first six months of 1923, twenty-one less than the number thirty for the first six months of 1922, and twenty-seven less than the number thirty-six for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas 1.

NASHVILLE TENN. GLOBE (wk)
JULY 22, 1927

LYNCHING RECORD RELEASED

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE COVERS THE PERIOD 1926

First Six Months of 1927 Discloses Nine Lynchings Up To Date

In keeping with the former years of tabulation on lynching occuring in the United States, Dr. R. R. Moton of Tuskegee Institute, Alabama sent out the following letters during the past week. One came to the Nashville Globe. In the letter he said:

"I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1927, there were 9 lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

Yours very truly,
R. R. MOTON,
Principal Tuskegee Institute.

ALEXANDER CITY, ALA., OUTLOOK
JULY 21, 1927

LYNCHING RECORD FOR THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1927

Dear Sir:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Researth that in the first six months of 1927, there were 9 lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924; 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas 1.

Yours very truly,
R. M. MOTON, Principal.

FRIEND, NEB., TELEGRAPH
JULY 22, 1927

Nine Lynchings in South in First Half of Year

Tuskegee, Ala.—Nine lynchings were recorded during the first half of 1927 by the department of records and research at Tuskegee Normal and Industrial institute here. All of the persons lynched were negroes, the statement said, and were distributed among the states as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1, and Texas 1.

AKRON, O., JOURNAL
July 15, 1927

RECORD OF LYNCHINGS

Editor Beacon Journal:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research that in the first six months of 1927, there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is four more than the number five for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, four; attempted murder, two; rape, one; improper conduct, one; charge not reported, one.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, two; Louisiana, one; Mississippi, four; Missouri one; Texas, one.

ROBERT R. MOTON,
Principal Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute.

Hales Corners
Marshfield, Wis., News
THURSDAY, JULY 21, 1927

Nine Lynchings in South in First Half of Year

Tuskegee, Ala.—Nine lynchings were recorded during the first half of 1927 by the department of records and research at Tuskegee Normal and Industrial institute here. All of the persons lynched were negroes, the statement said, and were distributed among the states as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1, and Texas 1.

WORCESTER MASS POST
JULY 13, 1927

Tuskegee Institute records nine lynchings in five states of south and southwest in first six months of year.

BLAIR (NEB) PILOT
WEDNESDAY, JULY 27, 1927

LYNCHING RECORD FOR THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1927

The following letter is sent us by R. R. Morton, principal of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute founded by the late Booker T. Washington:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1927, there were 9 lynchings.

This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows, Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

Forsyth, Ga., Monroe Advertiser

AUG 11 1927

NO GEORGIA LYNCHINGS DURING FIRST 6 MONTHS

According to records complied at Tuskegee Institute, which have been furnished to the Advertiser, in the first six months of 1927 there were nine lynchings This is the same as the number for the first six months of the year 1925 and 1926; it is four more than the number five for first six months of 1924, six less than the number fifteen for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; assault, 1; improper conduct, 1 charge not reported, 1.

Osseo, Wis., News
THURSDAY, JULY 28, 1927

Nine Negro Lynchings Recorded.

Tuskegee, Ala. — Nine lynchings were recorded in the first half of 1927 by the department of records and research at Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute here.

BUNKIE, LA., RECORD
JULY 22, 1927

ONE LYNCHED IN LA. IN SIX MONTHS OF 1927

The Lynching Record For The First Six Months of 1927

The following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year, according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1927, there were 9 lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years of 1925 and 1926; it ies 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number for the first six months of 1922 and 27 less than the number for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not repoted, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas 1.

LAMAR, COLO., NEWS
JULY 18, 1927

THE LYNCHING RECORD FOR FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1927

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research in the first six months of 1927, there were 9 lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the year 1925 and 1926; it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas 1.

BOULDER, COLO., NEWS-HERALD
JULY 15, 1927

Lynching Statistics For The First 6 Months Of Year Are Made Public

Robert R. Morton, principal of the Tuskegee (Alabama) Normal and Industrial Institute which was founded by Booker T. Washington for the training of colored young men and women, has sent The News-Herald compiled statistics concerning the country's lynching record for the first six months of the present year: He says:

"I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1927, there were 9 lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is four more than the number, five, for the first six months of 1924; six less than the number, fifteen, for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number, 30, for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number, 36, for the first six months of 1921.

"All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

"The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1."

TIMES
GENEVA, N. Y.

JUL 26 1927

LYNCHINGS

The lynchings in the United States for the first six months of this year totalled nine, the same as last year. Is our national lynching "stabilized" at that new level?

Regrettable as every one of the lynchings was, the figure represents a great gain over old records. When the past shame of the United States in this regard is considered, much satisfaction may be felt in reducing the number so low, comparatively, and holding it there. It is a triumph for law and order, in a country which is not so lawless as it is often painted.

No wonder lynchings diminish, when such a breed of public officials is developing in southern cities as was demonstrated not long ago in Tampa, when a mob tried to lynch a prisoner. Every such manful stand on the part of public authority is a victory for civilization.

INDIANAPOLIS IND RECORDER
SATURDAY, JULY 23, 1927.

Tuskegee Records Nine Lynchings

(The Associated Negro Press)
TUSKEGEE, INSTITUTE, Ala. July 22d.—According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1927, there were nine lynchings This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is four more than the number five for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number fifteen for the first siv months of 1923, twenty-one less than the number thirty for the first six months of 1922, and twenty-seven less than the number thirty-six for the first six months of 1921.

HERALD
Albany, Ga.
JUL 27 1927

SIX MONTHS LYNCHINGS.

Dr. R. R. Moton, president of Tuskegee Institute, sends out a report on the lynching record for the first six months of 1927. "I find," says Dr. Moton, "according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1927, there were 9 lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921."

All the persons lynched were negroes, though a number of white persons have been flogged. The alleged offenses of the nine persons lynched were: Murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1. The states in which lynchings occurred are listed as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 1; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

It is to be hoped that Georgia has been removed from the list of states in which lynch law survives. There was but one lynching in this state in 1926, and the perpetrators of that crime were apprehended, vigorously prosecuted and sent to prison for long terms, the ringleader drawing a merited life sentence. Coffee County's example has had a most salutary effect, and the time seems to have passed when mobs in this state are justified in expecting that their crimes will be ignored.

The day of lynchings may no
ciety can be expected not put forth
have passed in Georgia, but the time
vigorous efforts to bring lynchers to
has passed when the law and so
justice.

Lynchings - 1927

Reports on Sent Press.

Jan.- June.

2585

BLAIR, NEB., PILOT
JULY 27, 1927

LYNCHING RECORD FOR THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1927

The following letter is sent us by R. R. Morton, principal of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute founded by the late Booker T. Washington:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1927, there were 9 lynchings.

This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows. Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

BLAIR NEB. PILOT
JULY 27, 1927

LYNCHING RECORD FOR THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1927

The following letter is sent us by R. R. Morton, principal of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute founded by the late Booker T. Washington:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1927, there were 9 lynchings.

This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows. Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4: Missouri, 1: Texas, 1.

Plummer, Minn., Pioneer.
FRIDAY, AUGUST 5, 1927

Nine Negro Lynchings Recorded.

Tuskegee, Ala. — Nine lynchings were recorded in the first half of 1927 by the department of records and research at Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute here.

Vidalia, Ga., Advance

AUG 18 1927

NINE ARE LYNCHED SINCE JANUARY 1

ALL WERE NEGROES REPORTS OF TUSKEEGEE INSTITUTE SHOW.

The Department of Records and Research shows that in the first six months of 1927, there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months the years 1925 and 1926; it is four more than the number, five, for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number, fifteen, for the first six months of 1923, twenty-one less than number, thirty, for the first six months of 1922, and twenty-seven less than the number, thirty-six, for the first six months of 1921.

All the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occured and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana 1; Mississippi,. 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

SAN JOSE, CAL.—
MERCURY HERALD
JULY 22, 1927

Southern Institute Reports Lynchings

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 21.—According to the records compiled in Tuskegee Institute, in the first six months of 1925 and 1926, it is four nine lynchings, which is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, and 1926. It is four more than for the first six months of 1924, six less than for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than for the first six months of 1922 and 27 less than for the first six months of 1921.

All persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

LAKE CHARLES LA. PRESS
JULY 13, 1927

NINE NEGROES LYNCHED

By The Associated Press.

Tuskegee, Ala., July 12.—Tuskegee Institute's report of lynchings issued today shows that nine negroes were lynched since the last report. Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1, and Texas, 1. The offenses charged were: Murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1, the institute's statement said.

BOWLING GREEN, KY., NEWS
JULY 15, 1927

NINE PERSONS ARE LYNCHED IN FIRST SIX MONTHS OF '27

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research in the first six months of 1927, there were 9 lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is 4 more than the number for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number for the first six month of 1923, 21 less than the number for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

DALLAS TEX. NEWS
JULY 30, 1927

NINE LYNCHED SO FAR THIS YEAR

(P. N. S.)

Tuskegee, Ala., July 30—Nine lynchings were recorded during the first half of 1927 by the department of record and research at Tuskegee normal and industrial institute. All of the persons lynched were Negroes, the statement said and were distributed among the states as follows: Arkansas, 2, Louisiana, 1, Mississippi, 4, Missouri, 1, and Texas 1.

SUTLER MO. TIMES
JULY 21, 1927

Nine lynchings were recorded during the first half of 1927 by the Department of Records and Research at Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, at Tuskegee, Ala. All of the persons lynched were negroes, the statement said, and were distributed among the following states: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1, and Texas 1.

AMERICUS Recorder
GA.
ISSUE OF
JUL 12 1927

LYNCHING RECORD—

In the record of lynchings in the country during the first six months of 1927, Georgia does not appear, and that is information which will be received with pleasure by every Georgian. During the six months there were nine lynchings, according to the following letter from R. R. Morton, principal of the Tuskegee Industrial Institute, addressed to the editor:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1927, there were 9 lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

Quick trials, adequate justice, sheriffs who have the manhood to hold their prisoners in the face of lawless mobs is gradually obliterating the lynching evil. Every law-abiding citizen in the state hopes that Georgia's record for the first six months will be duplicated during the last six.

Hallowell (Mont.) Interlake
July 16, 1927

LYNCHINGS ON DECREASE

68

Report from the Tuskegee Institute shows that lynching is on the decrease, which indicates that as a nation we are becoming more law abiding.

The report shows that there were six lynchings in the first six months of 1927. For similar periods there were 36 in 1921; 30 for 1922; 15 for 1923; five for 1924; and nine each for the years 1925, 1926, and 1927.

While a record of nine lynchings in a six-months period is a good many, a remarkable decrease is shown in recent years. The states in which the lynchings occurred this year were Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, and Texas. In each case the victims were Negroes, and with two exceptions the offenses charged were most heinous.

While this might seem like racial prejudice, the southerners seem to have a way of employing force to regulate the conduct of whites as well. Only recently in Alabama a woman and her son were beaten for alleged immoral conduct by a group of masked men, headed by a man occupying the position of a high school, as well as being superintendent of a Sunday school. Reports of other occurrences of a similar nature have come from the same state, and it is reported that the legislature is about to pass legislation to curb such crimes.

While there are exaggerated cases in all states which seem to require swift and drastic punishment, the only safe course is to allow the law to deal with the offenders; otherwise the very foundations of our government are likely to be undermined.

If those who participate in the lynching of Negroes and beating those of their own race whose morals do not conform to their ideals, would lend their efforts toward tightening up the laws, and in helping to secure evidence of violations, there would be no occasion for mob violence.

Mishawaka, Ind., Enterprise
Thursday, July 28, 1927

LYNCHINGS

The lynchings in the United States for the first six months of this year totalled nine, the same at last year. It our national lynching "stabilized" at the new level?

Regrettable as every one of the lynchings was, the figure represent a great gain over old records. When th epast shame of the United States in this regard is considered, much satisfaction may be felt in reducing the number so low, comparatively, and holding it there. It is a triumph for law and order, in a country which is not so lawless as it is often painted.

No wonder lynchings diminish, when such a breed of public officials is developing in southern cities as was demonstrated not long ago in Tampa, when a mob tried to lynch a prisoner. Every such manful stand on the part of public authorities is a victory for civilization.

NINE NEGROES LYNCHED IN SIX MONTHS

..According to Associated Dispatches from Tuskegee Institute, nine lynchings are reported for the first six months of 1927 by the Department of Research, at Tuskegee, Monroe Work, director. All persons lynched were Negroes and were distributed in the following states: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi 4; Missouri 1; Texas, 1. Total number for this year equaled the first half of 1925-26, and four times the number in 1924.

Lynchings in 1927

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research in the first six months of 1927 there were 9 lynchings. This number is the same as for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921. All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1. The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas. 1.

Seattle Wash
Enterprise
July 22-1927

Nine Lynchings in First Six Months

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 21.—Nine lynchings were recorded in the first half of 1927 by the department of records and research at Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute.

All persons lynched were colored Americans statements said and were distributed among states as follows: Mississippi, four; Arkansas, two; Missouri, one; Louisiana, one, and Texas, one.

Offenses listed were murder, four; attempted murder, two; rape, one; improper conduct, one, and charge was not reported in one case.

SAN JOSE, CAL.
MERCURY HERALD
JULY 22, 1927

Southern Institute Reports Lynchings

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 21.—According to the records compiled in Tuskegee Institute, in the first six months of 1925 and 1926, it is four nine lynchings, which is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, and 1926. It is four more than for the first six months of 1924, six less than for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than for the first six months of 1922 and 27 less than for the first six months of 1921.

All persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

DANBURY CONN. WKLY NEWS
JULY 13. 1927

Tuskegee Institute records nine lynchings in five states of south and southwest in first six months of year.

SOMERSET (KY.) COMMONWEALTH
JULY 20, 1927

NINE LYNCHINGS FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1927

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, Alabama, there were nine lynchings in the United States in the first six months of this year. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926. All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1, and charge not reported, 1. The lynchings occurred in Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri and Texas.

CEDAR RAPIDS, NEB., OUTLOOK
AUGUST 4, 1927

Nine Lynchings in South in First Half of Year

Tuskegee, Ala.—Nine lynchings were recorded during the first half of 1927 by the department of records and research at Tuskegee Normal and Industrial institute here. All of the persons lynched were negroes, the statement said, and were distributed among the states as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1, and Texas 1.

Public Ledger
PHILADELPHIA, PA.
July 25-27

LYNCHINGS IN 1927

Number in First Six Months Compared With Past Years

To the Editor of the Public Ledger:

Sir—I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find, according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, that in the first six months of 1927 there were nine lynchings.

This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is four more than the number (five) for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number (fifteen) for the first six months of 1923, twenty-one less than the number (thirty) for the first six months of 1922 and twenty-seven less than the number (thirty-six) for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, four; attempted murder, two; rape, one; improper conduct, one; charge not reported, one. The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas, two; Louisiana, one; Mississippi, four; Missouri, four; Texas, one.

R. R. MOTON,
Principal Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute.
Tuskegee, Ala., July 9, 1927.

BROOKLYN TIMES
JUL 15 1927

LYNCHING RECORD

Editor, Brooklyn Daily Times,

Sir. I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1927, there were 9 lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occured and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1 Texas, 1.

Yours very truly,
R. R. MOTON,
Principal, Tuskegee, Inst., Alabama.
July 9, 1927.

Lynchings - 1927
Reports on, sent Press.

2586

Jan. - June

2586

ASHVILLE, N. C.
Times
JUL 15 1927

Lynching In 1927

ACCORDING to the records of Tuskegee Institute, there were nine lynchings in the country for the first six months of 1927. As a basis for judgment as to the decrease or increase of unlawful killings by mobs, the figures are inconclusive. In some recent years the number of lynchings for the first half of the year have been more or less than this: last year and the year before the half-year's record was the same as this year's. It is clear, however, that the agencies of law-enforcement and the power of public opinion must keep themselves unalterably set and on the alert against mob violence.

All those lynched this year were Negroes. One was charged with rape, one with improper conduct, four with murder, two with attempted murder, and as to one the charge was not reported. The state record for these successfu assaults on the law is as follows: Mississipp 4; Arkansas 2; Missouri 1; Texas 1; Louisians 1. It is a record of state shame. The only redeeming thing to be said in comment is that by slow process, the people of the very states here mentioned are becoming more determined to put down lynching and make the law supreme.

Standard
Burlington

JUL 14 1927

NINE LYNCHINGS

Record for Past Six Months Kept at Tuskegee

According to records compiled at Tuskegee Institute, there were nine lynchings in the United States in the first six months of 1927.

This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

Post
Jamestown NY

JUL 13 1927

LYNCHING NEGROES FOR MURDER.

The defenders of lynching years ago were wont to say that the negroes thus put to death were guilty of crimes against women, that the white women of the South must be protected and should not be compelled to go into court and tell the story of their wrongs to a jury. That sounded plausible and probably had some basis in fact, but times have changed. For several years the majority of Southern lynchings have been for murder, not for rape, and there seems to be no reason why a negro murderer should not be tried in open court, as most of them now are. If there is not evidence enough against the accused man to warrant a jury, usually composed of white men, in convicting him of the crime, there can certainly be no justification for lynching him without trial.

Principal Moton of the Tuskegee Institute, founded by Booker T. Washington, sends out a semi-annual record of lynchings from a list kept at the institution. During the first six months of 1927, there were nine lynchings, all of negroes and all in the South. Four of these men were charged with murder, two with attempted murder, only one with rape and one with improper conduct, presumably sexual, while in one case the charge was not reported.

The number is the same as in the corresponding period of the two previous years, more than in 1924, but less than in the years immediately preceding. If we go back six years to the first half of 1921, we find a 75 per cent. reduction—from 36 to 9. Mississippi, the state which retains most nearly the characteristics of the Old South, had four lynchings, Arkansas two, and Louisiana, Missouri and Texas each one. On the whole the situation is growing better, but every few weeks a horrible story of burning a negro at the stake shows that racial passions still flare up into diabolical deeds.

ABERDEEN, WASH., WORLD
JULY 19, 1927

NINE LYNCHINGS HALF YEAR MARK

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Alabama, July 19.—Nine persons, all of them negroes, were lynched during the first six months of this year, according to records compiled by the department of records and research, Tuskegee institute. This number is the same as for the first six months each of 1925 and 1926, four more than in the corresponding months in 1924, 21 less than in 1922 and 27 less than in the first six months of 1921.

The offenses charged against the negroes lynched were murder, four; attempted murder, two; rape, one; improper conduct, one; charge not reported, one. Four lynchings occurred in Mississippi, two in Arkansas, and one each in Louisana, Missouri and Texas, the report shows.

Transcript
BOSTON, MASS.

First Half 1927, Nine Negroes Lynched

Nine lynchings, all negroes, were recorded the first half of 1927 by the Department of Records and Research at Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, distributed among the States as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1, and Texas, 1. The offenses listed were: murder, 4; attemped murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

ALEXANDRIA, LA., TOWN TALK
JULY 13, 1927

Tuskegee Institute Report Shows Nine Lynchings

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 13.—(By A. P.)—Tuskegee Institute's report of lynchings shows that nine negroes were lynched the last report. Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1, and Texas, 1.

The offenses charged were: Murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1; the institute's statement said.

TALLADEGA, ALA., HOME
JULY 19, 1927

ALABAMA HAD NO LYNCHINGS FIRST HALF OF THIS YEAR

"While reading of the Alabama floggings, the acts of outlaws, do not overlook the fact that the state had no lynchings during the first six months of the year,' says The Talladega Home.

That is a good suggestion. While all law-abiding citizens of the state have been made to hang their heads in shame by the recent series of masked outrages, it gives us some consolation to recall that none of the lawless bands has gone to the extreme and taken a human life.

This is no justification of the floggins, but Alabama might be pardoned for showing some pride in her record in regard to lynchings. The record shows up to better advantage when we consider that our sister state, Mississippi, contributed four of the nine lynchings reported in the first six months of 1927.—Anniston Star.

Talladega

Gazette-Times
PITTSBURGH, PA.

July 23/2

This Is Uncle Sam's 1927 Semi-Annual Lynching Record

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, ALA., July 21.—According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research in the first six months of 1927, there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is four more than the number five for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

TOPEKA KS. JOURNAL
JULY 19, 1927

THE YEAR'S LYNCHINGS.

The Mississippi flood did not interfere with the harvest of lynchings in the south for the first six months of the year. According to the records of the Tuskegee institute, the colored school founded by Booker T. Washington, there were nine lynchings in the United States in that period. The number is the same as in the first six months of 1925 and the first six months of 1924, when there was no flood to distract the white gentry from their usual pursuits.

All of the persons lynched this year were negroes.

The lynchings occurred in the following states: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

The offenses charged against the victims were: Murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; "improper conduct," 1; not specified, 1. In this tabulation, the fact that rape occurs only once is notable, as the southern defense of lynching is usually based on the imagined necessity of restraining what the southerners suppose to be the peculiar carnality of the black people. During the same period, of course, white men have committed all the crimes with which the colored men were charged in these instances. Lynching does not result from abhorrence of crime; it results generally from the hatred of another race, which in the localities where lynching flourishes most, is politically and economically helpless.

FROM Standard
Burlington

JUL 4 1927

NINE LYNCHINGS

Record for Past Six Months Kept at Tuskegee

According to records compiled at Tuskegee Institute, there were nine lynchings in the United States in the first six months of 1927.

This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

SUNTSVILLE MO. HERALD
JULY 21. 1927

Robert R. Moton, Principal of the Tuskegee Normal and Institute at Tuskegee, Alabama, for the training of colored young men and women, informs the Herald that according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1927, there were 9 lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, and 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchnigs occurred and the number in each are as follows Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

Ivy Neora
JUL 1 1927

THE LYNCHING RECORD.

According to records compiled at Tuskegee Institute, there were nine lynchings during the first six months of the present year. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is four more than the number for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number for the first six months of 1923, twenty-one less than the number for the first six months of 1922, and twenty-seven less than the number for the first six months of 1921.

From these figures it will be observed that lynching has been out of favor since 1922, with the yearly number encouragingly low, although as long as there are any lynchings whether nine or a third of nine there are that number too many. There may at times be terrible provocation, but if the law cannot deal out justice to criminals, then it is the law that requires remedying or strengthening. The way to correct lawlessness is not by more lawless

ENID OK NEWS
JULY 20, 1927

ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT

According to the head of Tuskegee Institute, lynchings in the first six months of 1927 parallel those of 1925 and 1926 in number, with nine lives taken by mobs in the first half of each of these years. This is four more than were lynched in the first six months of 1924; but compared to the first half of 1921, shows up favorably, indicating a falling off in the lynch law spirit evident in that year, when 36 persons were the victims of mobs before the end of June.

All the persons lynched were negroes; and the south is credited with eight of the nine lynchings, Mississippi reporting four, Arkansas two, Louisiana and Texas one each, and Missouri one.

Altogether, the records of recent years show a tendency away from mob violence that aims to take life. It is an encouraging sign, yet the mob spirit in the south, while not now demanding as many lives in sacrifice to inflamed passions and without due process of law, still runs riot as the news stories of recent days have told. Lynchings have decreased, but the spirit that leads to such acts is still too common in the land; and the south in particular will still find plenty of educational opportunity along that line if it looks into its record books.

Opp Ala News
JUL 21 1927

The Lynching Record First Six Months 1927

I send you the following information concerning lynching for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1927, there were 9 lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occured and the number in each state are as follows Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

Anaconda, Mont., Standard
MONDAY, JULY 25. 1927

FEWER LYNCHINGS, MORE FLOGGINGS.

Statistics compiled at Tuskegee Institute show a slow and unsteady decrease in the number of the country's lynchings. In the first six months of 1927 there were nine. This number is the same as for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is 4 more than for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than for the first six months of 1921. All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1. The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1. But if lynching in the South is declining, a flogging epidemic is raging. Incomplete returns show that thus far this year there have been 13 in Alabama, two in Florida and five in Georgia. All but four of the victims have been whites. Both sexes are represented in the list, and immoral conduct has been the charge preferred in nearly every case. Success in controlling the epidemic has not yet been attained. The chief difficulty encountered by the prosecuting lawyers is that of establishing the identity of a hooded flogger beyond a reasonable doubt. Ku Klux Klan leaders deny emphatically that the Klan sanctions, much less authorizes and promotes, these brutalities. They attribute them to individuals who, banding together, adopt the Klan's vesture to protect themselves from identification.

SEWARD, NEB., JOURNAL.
JULY 20. 1927

NINE LYNCHED

The principal of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute writes that there were nine lynchings for the first six months of 1927. Four were for murder; attempted murder, two; rape, one; improper conduct, one; charge not reported, one. If the men who committed the rape were white they might have gotten off with at least their lives, although they richly deserve extreme punishment.

OREGON, ILL., REPORTER
Tuesday, July 26, 1927

Nine Lynchings in South in First Half of Year

Tuskegee, Ala.—Nine lynchings were recorded during the first half of 1927 by the department of records and research at Tuskegee Normal and Industrial institute here. All of the persons lynched were negroes, the statement said, and were distributed among the states as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1, and Texas 1.

NEW YORK
SUN and GLOBE
JUL 18 1927

Data on Lynchings.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: I send to you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find, according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research, that in the first six months of 1927 there were 9 lynchings. This number is the same as for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is 4 more than for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1. The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

ROBERT R. MOTON,
Principal,
Tuskegee Institute, Alabama, July 15.

Mt. Airy (NC) News,
July 21, 1927

NINE LYNCHINGS ARE REPORTED THIS YEAR

Mississippi Leads With Four and Alleged Murderers Are Principal Victims.

Tuskagee Institute, Ala., July 13.—The following record of lynchings in the United States for the first six months of this year has been compiled by Tuskagee institute:

There were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is four more than the number five for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were negroes, murder 4; attempted murder, two; criminal attack, one; improper conduct, one; charge not reported one.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, two; Louisiana, one; Mississippi, four; Missouri, one; Texas, one.

Lynchings-1927
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan.- June.

2587

NEWS
BELOIT, WIS.
JUL 30 1927

THE LYNCHING RECORD

The lynchings in the United States for the first six months of this year totaled nine, the same as last year. Is our national lynching "stabilized" at that new level? Regrettable as every one of the lynchings was, the figure represents a great gain over old records. When the past shame of the United States in this regard is considered, much satisfaction may be felt in reducing the number so low, comparatively, and holding it there.—Kenosha News.

BUT the trouble is we had no success in "holding it there." The lynching toll for 1926 jumped from nine to nearly 30 before the year was over—an increase of approximately 50 per cent over the lynching record of 1925. And in that there is not much reason for satisfaction or self-congratulation.

PRESS
JUL 21 1927

LYNCHINGS

The lynchings in the United States for the first six months of this year totalled nine, the same as last year. Is our national lynching "stabilized" at that new level?

Regrettable as every one of the lynchings was, the figure represents a great gain over old records. When the past shame of the United States in this regard is considered, much satisfaction may be felt in reducing the number so low, comparatively, and holding it there. It is a triumph for law and order, in a country which is not so lawless as it is often painted.

No wonder lynchings diminish, when such a breed of public officials is developing in southern cities as was demonstrated not long ago in Tampa, when a mob tried to lynch a prisoner. Every such manful stand on the part of public authority is a victory for civilization.

West Point Miss
Times.
JUL 29 1927

LYNCHING ON DECREASE

In the first six months of 1927 there were nine lynchings in the United States, according to the Department of Records and Research compiled at Tuskegee Institute in Ala. There were also nine lynchings the first six months of 1925 and 1926; it is four more than the number five for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number fifteen for first six months of 1923, twentyone less than the number thirty for the first 6 months of 1922, and twenty-seven less than the number thirty-six for the first half of 1921. Lynchings are decreasing.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were four murders; two attempted murders; one rape; one improper conduct and one charge not reported.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, two; Louisiana, one; Mississippi, four; Missouri, one; Texas, one. Mississippi must bring her record down.

Cochran, Ga., Journal
JUL 21 1927

No Georgia Lynchings During First Six Months

Nine Have Occurred in Country With Missippi Leading

According to records compiled at Tuskegee Institute, which have been furnished to the Journal, in the first six months of 1927 there were nine lynchings. This is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is four more than the number five for the first six months of 1924; six less than the number fifteen for the first six months of 1923; 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; assault, 1; improper conduct, 1; char[illegible] not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas2; Louisiana 1; Mississippi4; Missouri 1; Texas 1.

Franklin (N.) Tri-Weekly Tribune,
July 23, 1927

The Lynching Record For The Firs Six Months Of 1927.

According to the records compile at Tuskegee Institute in the Depart ment of Records and Research tha in the first six months of 1927, there were 9 lynchings. This number i the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the number 36 for the first six months of 1921. All of the persons lynched were Negroes.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas 1.

FROM Kinston
Little Falls
JUL 12 1927.

NINE LYNCHINGS SO FAR.

Tuskegee Report for First Half o 1927 Lists Alleged Offenses.

Tuskegee, Ala., July 13—Nin lynchings were recorded in the firs half of 1927 by the department o records and research at Tuskege normal and industrial institute.

All of those lynched were negroes distributed as follows. Arkansas 2 Louisiana 1, Mississippi 4, Missour 1, Texas 1.

Alleged offenses listed were: Mur der, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape ; improper conduct, 1; charge no reported, 1.

The total number equalled th figures for the first half of 1926-26

WESTVILLE IND INDICATOR
THURSDAY, JULY 21, 1927.

Nine Lynchings in South in First Half of Year

Tuskegee, Ala.—Nine lynchings were recorded during the first half of 1927 by the department of records and research at Tuskegee Normal and Industrial institute here. All of the persons lynched were negroes, the statement said, and were distributed among the states as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1, and Texas 1.

SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.
PACIFIC RURAL PRESS
JULY 23, 1927

The Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute of Alabama reports that during the first six months of 1927 nine colored persons were lynched in the following states: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 1; Missouri 1; and Texas, 1.

Wetumpka-Ala
Herald
JUL 21 1927

No Lynchings In Alabama This Year

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research in the first six months of 1927, there were 9 lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925, and 1926; it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

Post
BOSTON, MASS.
7/13/27

NINE LYNCHINGS DURING SIX MONTHS

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 12 (AP)—Nin lynchings were recorded the first half of 1927 by the Department of Records and Research at Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute here.

All of the persons lynched were colored, the statement said, and were distributed among the States as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 1; Missouri 1 and Texas, 1.

HOUGHTON (MICH.) GAZ
SUNDAY, JULY 24, 1927.

Nine Lynchings in 1927.

TUSKEGEE, Ala.,—Nine lynchings were recorded in the first half of 1927 by the Department of Records and Research at Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute.

All of those lynched were Negroes, distributed as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisana, 1; Mississipppi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

Alleged offenses listed were: Murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The total number equalled the figures for the first half of 1925-26

SYLACAUGA, ALA., ADVANCE
JULY 20, 1927

TUSKEGEE RECORDS

NINE LYNCHINGS

Tuskegee, Ala., July 15.—Nine lynchings have been recorded by Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute's record department for the first half of 1927.

The same number occurred in 1925 and 1926, according to the statement.

Mississippi led with four

Houghton, Mich., Mining-Gazette
SUNDAY, JULY 24, 1927

Nine Lynchings in 1927.

TUSKEGEE, Ala.,—Nine lynchings were recorded in the first half of 1927 by the Department of Records and Research at Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute.

All of those lynched were Negroes, distributed as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisana, 1; Mississipppi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

Alleged offenses listed were: Murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The total number equalled the figures for the first half of 1925-26

Lynchings-1927
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan- June.

2588

THE LYNCHING RECORD FOR THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1927.

Editor Africo-American Presbyterian:

Dear Sir:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1927, there were 9 lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas, 2: Louisiana. 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

Yours very truly,
R. R. MOTON,
Principal.

THE LYNCHING RECORD FOR THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1927.

Dear Sir:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1927, there were 9 lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years of 1925 and 1926; it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occured and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas 1.

Yours very truly,
R. R. MOTON, Principal
Tuskegee Institute, Ala.

LYNCHING RECORD RELEASED

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE COVERS THE PERIOD 1926

First Six Months of 1927 Discloses Nine Lynchings Up To Date

In keeping with the former years of tabulation on lynching occuring in the United States, Dr. R. R. Moton of Tuskegee Institute, Alabama sent out the following letter during the past week. One came to the Nashville Globe. In the letter he said:

"I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1927, there were 9 lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occured and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas 1.

Yours very truly,
R. M. MOTON, Principal.

LYNCH RECORD IN U. S. REMAINS SAME

TUSKEGEE, ALA., JULY 20.—According to information received from the department of records and research at Tuskegee Institute nine lynchings have been recorded during the first six months of this year, all of the victims were Americans of color.

They were distributed among the states, states as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi; 4; Missouri, 1; and Texas 1.

The offenses listed were: murder, 4; attempt mured, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The total number for the first half of this year equalled the figures for the first half of 1925 and 1926 and was four more than the total for the first half of 1924.

It was six less than the number for the first six months of 1923; twenty-one less than the same figures of the same period of 1922 and twenty-seven less than the record for corresponding months of 1921.

Tuskegee Institute, Ala.—According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, there were nine lynchings in the first six months of 1927.

This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is four more than the number five, for the first six months of 1924; six less than the number, 15, for the first six months of 1923; 21 less than the number 30, for the first six months of 1922; and 27 less than the number, 36, for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana 1, Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

9 LYNCHED FIRST HALF OF YEAR

Record Equals First Six Months Of Year 1926

VICTIMS COLORED

Special to the Journal and Guide

Tuskegee, Ala., July 20.—Nine lynchings occurred for the first six months of this year, the same being the same as for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926, according to information released here this week by the Department of Records and Research of Tuskegee Institute, whose figures on lynching have come to be regarded as the most authentic available.

The number is four more than the number five for the first six months of the year 1924, six less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were murder, four; attempted murder two; rape, one; improper conduct, one; charge not reported, one.

The states in which lynching occured and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, two; Louisiana, one; Mississippi, four; Missouri one, and Texas, one.

Hartwell, Ga., Sun
JUL 22 1927

LYNCHING RECORD FOR FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1927; GEORGIA HAS CLEAN SLATE

Dear Sir:—I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research that in the first six months of 1927, there were 9 lynchings.

This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the pesrsons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

Yours very truly,
R. R. MOTON,
Principal.

Mount Airy N. C. News
JUL 21 1927

NINE LYNCHINGS ARE REPORTED THIS YEAR

Mississippi Leads With Four and Alleged Murderers Are Principal Victims.

Tuskagee Institute, Ala., July 13.—The following record of lynchings in the United States for the first six months of this year has been compiled by Tuskagee institute:

There were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is four more than the number five for the first six months of 1924. six less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27

less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were negroes, murder 4; attempted murder, two; criminal attack, one; improper conduct, one; charge not reported, one.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, two; Louisiana, one; Mississippi, four; Missouri, one; Texas, one.

Nashville, Tenn., Tennessean

JUL 13 1927

9 LYNCHINGS REPORTED DURING FIRST HALF 1927

(By United Press.)

Tuskegee, Ala., July 13.—Nine lynchings have been recorded by Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institue's record department for the first half of 1927.

The same number occurred in 1925 and 1926, according to the statement.

Mississippi led with four.

CHARLESTON, S. C., Post.

JUL 12 1927

Nine Lynchings During First Half of 1927

Tuskegeee, Ala., July 12. (AP)—There were nine lynchings during the first half of 1927 the department of records and reaserch at Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute announced today.

All of the persons lynched were negroes, the statement said and were distributed among the states, as follows:

Arkansas 2, Louisiana 3, Mississippi 4, Missouri 1, and Texas 1.

The offenses charged were:

Murder 3, attempted murder 4, rape 1, improper conduct 1, charge not reported 1, the institute's announcement stated.

The total number for the first half of this year equalled the figures for the first half of 1925-26 and was four more than the total for the first half of 1924. It was six less than the number for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the figure for the same period of 1922 and 27 less than the record for corresponding months of 1921.

BARTOW, FLA. Record

JUL 13 1927

NINE LYNCHINGS REPORTED DURING FIRST HALF 1927

TUSKEGEE, Ala.—July 13. (AP)—Nine lynchings were recorded during the first half of 1927 by the Department of Records and Research at Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute here.

All of the persons lynched were negroes, the statement said, and were distributed among the states as foloiws: Arkansas 2, Louisiana 1, Mississippi 4, Missouri 1, and Texas 1.

The offenses charged were:: murder 4, attempted murder 3, rape 1, improper conduct 1, charge not reported 1, the institution announcement stated.

The total number for the first half of this year equalled the figures for the first half o 1925-26 and was four more than the total for the first half of 1924. It was six less than the number for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the figure for the same period of 1922 and 27 less than the record for corresponding months of 1921.

Bellaville, N. C., Review

JUL 15 1927

NINE LYNCHINGS ARE REPORTED THIS YEAR

Tuskagee Institute, Ala., July 14.—The following record of lynchings in the United States for the first six months of this year has been compiled by Tuskagee Institute.

There were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is four more than the number five for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were criminal attack, one; improper conduct, one; charge not reported, one; murder, four; attempted murder, two.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, two; Louisiana, one; Mississippi, four; Missouri, one; Texas, one.

Statesville, N. C., Daily

JUL 14 1927

NINE LYNCHINGS IN SIX MONTHS

Mississippi Leads With Four and Alleged Murderers Are Principal Victims.

Tuskagee Institute, Ala., July 14.—The following record of lynchings in the United States for the first six months of this year has been compiled by Tuskagee institute:

There were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is four more than the number five for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923 ,21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, four; attempted murder, two; criminal attack one; improper conduct, one; charge not reported, one.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, two; Louisiana, one; Mississippi, four; Missouri, one; Texas, one.

ITEM

Sumter, S. C.

JUL 26 1927

LYNCHINGS

The lynchings in the United States for the first six months of this year totalled nine, the same as last year. Is our national lynching "stabilized" at that new level?

Regrettable as every one of the lynchings was, the figure represents a great gain over old records. When the past shame of the United States in this regard is considered, much satisfaction may be felt in reducing the number so low, comparatively, and holding it there. It is a triumph for law and order, in a country which is not so lawless as it is often painted.

No wonder lynchings diminish, when such a breed of public officials is developing in southern cities as was demonstrated not long ago in Tampa, when a mob tried to lynch a prisoner. Every such manful stand on the part of public authority is a victory for civilization.

STANDARD

Ogden City, Utah

JUL 16 1927

LYNCHINGS ON DECREASE

Turkegee Normal and Industrial institute, founded by Booker T. Washington for the training of colored young men and women, keeps a record of all lynchings and every six months issues a bulletin the last one of which is as follows:

"According to the records compiled at Tuskegee institute in the department of records and research, in the first six months of 1927 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is four more than the number five for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921. All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1. The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1."

The records show that lynchings are decreasing. The southern states have discovered that law and order are best promoted by insisting that whatever the crime the law must operate and the mob spirit be suppressed.

Jamestown, N. Y.

JUL 15 1927

LYNCHING NEGROES FOR MURDER.

The defenders of lynching years ago were wont to say that the negroes thus put to death were guilty of crimes against women, that the white women of the South must be protected and should not be compelled to go into court and tell the story of their wrongs to a jury. That sounded plausible and probably had some basis in fact, but times have changed. For several years the majority of Southern lynchings have been for murder, not for rape, and there seems to be no reason why a negro murderer should not be tried in open court, as most of them now are. If there is not evidence enough against the accused man to warrant a jury, usually composed of white men, in convicting him of the crime, there can certainly be no justification for lynching him without trial.

Principal Moton of the Tuskegee Institute, founded by Booker T. Washington, sends out a semi-annual record of lynchings from a list kept at the institution. During the first six months of 1927, there were nine lynchings, all of negroes and all in the South. Four of these men were charged with murder, two with attempted murder, only one with rape and one with improper conduct, presumably sexual, while in one case the charge was not reported.

The number is the same as in the corresponding period of the two previous years, more than in 1924, but less than in the years immediately preceding. If we go back six years to the first half of 1921, we find a 75 per cent. reduction—from 36 to 9. Mississippi, the state which retains most nearly the characteristics of the Old South, had four lynchings, Arkansas two, and Louisiana, Missouri and Texas each one. On the whole the situation is growing better, but every few weeks a horrible story of burning a negro at the stake shows that racial passions still flare up into diabolical deeds.

Lynchings- 1927
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan - June.

2589

BUTTE, MONT.
Post

JUL 16 1927

NO DECREASE IN LYNCHING

Nine Negroes Victims in First Six Months of 1927.

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research that in the first six months of 1927, there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is four more than the number five for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

Greenville, S. C., Piedmont

JUL 12 1927

NO DECREASE IN LYNCHINGS

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 12.—(AP)—There were nine lynchings during the first half of 1927 the department of records and research at Tuskegee normal and industrial institute announced today.

All of the persons lynched were negroes, the statement said, and were distributed among the states as follows: Arkansas 2, Louisiana, 1, Mississippi, 4, Missouri, 1, and Texas 1. ..

The offenses charged were: Murder 4, attempted murder 2, rape 1, improper conduct, 1, charge not reported 1, the institute's announcement stated.

The total for the first half of the year equalled the figures for the first half of 1925-26 and was four more than the total for first half of 1924. It was six less than the number for the first six months of 1923; 21 less than the figures for the same period 1922 and 17 less than the record for corresponding months of 1921.

N. Y. WORLD

JUL 13 1927

NINE LYNCHINGS SO FAR

Tuskegee Report for First Half of 1927 Lists Alleged Offenses

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 12.—Nine lynchings were recorded in the first half of 1927 by the Department of Records and Research at Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute.

All of those lynched were Negroes, distributed as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

Alleged offenses listed were: Murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The total number equalled the figures for the first half of 1925-26.

NEW YORK
EVE. WORLD

JUL 13 1927

NINE LYNCHINGS IN 1927

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 13.—Nine lynchings were recorded in the first half of 1927 by the Department of Records and Research at Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute.

All of those lynched were Negroes, distributed as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

Alleged offenses listed were: Murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The total number equalled the figures for the first half of 1925-26.

HOME NEWS
NEW BRUNSWICK, N. J.
JUL 13 1927

Lynching Record For 1927 Same As That of 1926

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, in the first six months of 1927 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is four more than the number five for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number fifteen for the first six months of 1923, twenty-one less than the number thirty for the first six months of 1922, and twenty-seven less than the number thirty-six for the first six months or 1921.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

Abbeville Ala
Herald

JUL 14 1927

SOUTH LETTING UP AS TO LYNCHINGS

The department of records and research at Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute furnishes information as to the number of lynchings that have occurred during the first six months of the current year. It discloses that there were nine as compared with the same number for the coresponding period of 1925 and 1926. It is further shown by the report that for the first half of the year 1924 there were five lynchings; for the same period of 1923, 15; 1922, 30, and for 1921, 36. All victims were negroes and offenses charged were: murder, four, attempted murder, two; rape, one; improper conduct, one; charge not reported, one. The states in which lynchings occurred and number in each are: Arkansis, two; Louisiana, one; Mississippi, four; Missouri, one; Texas, one.

NEWS
Lenoir, N.C
JUL 14 1927

NINE LYNCHINGS ARE REPORTED THIS YEAR

The following record of lynchings in the United States for the first six months of this year has been compiled by Tuskagee institute:

There were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is four more than the number five for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923. 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows; Arkansas, two; Louisiana, one; Mississippi, four; Missouri, one; Texas, one.

Blackshear, Ga.
Times
JUL 7 1927

NO LYNCHINGS IN GEORGIA FOR THE FIRST SIX MONTHS

Tuskegee Records Show Only Nine Violations in Entire Country.

R. R. Moton, principal of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute issues the following on lynchings for the first six months of 1927:

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research that in the first six months of 1927 there were nine lynchings. This is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is four more than the number five for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number fifteen for the first six month sof 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1923 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; assault, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred an dthe number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisianna, 1; Missippi, 4; Misouri, 1; Texas 1.

Monroe, Ga., Walton T
Monroe,
News

JUL 19 1927

THE LYNCHING RECORD FOR FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1927

Dear Sir:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1927, there were 9 lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is 4 more than the number , 5, for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number, 15, for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number, 30, for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number, 36, for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

Yours very truly,
R. R. Moton, Principal.

Sandersville, Ga., Progress

JUL 20 1927

No Lynching in Georgia This Year

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1927, there were 9 lynchings. This number is the same as the number for first six months of the year 1925 and 1926; it is 4 more than [illegible] number 5 for the first six mo[illegible] of 1924, 6 less than the numbe[illegible] for the first six months of [illegible] less than the number 20 f[illegible] six months of 192[illegible]

All of the per[illegible] Negroes. The off[illegible]

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

Aiken, S. C. Standard
JUL 15 1927

NINE LYNCHINGS FIRST SIX MONTHS THIS YEAR

During the first six months of the present year there were 9 lynchings in the United States. This number is the same as that for the first six months of last year and the previous year, 1926 and 1925. All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1. The states in which lynchings occured and the number in each are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

Greensboro, N. C. Patriot
JUL 18 1927

Nine Lynchings In First Part of Year

There were nine lynchings in the United States during the first half of 1927, according to records just compiled by the department of records and research of Tuskegee institute. This is the same number as lynched during the first half of 1926 and 1925, but is four more than the number during the first half of 1924, when but five were lynched.

As compared with the first six months of 1923, there is a decrease of six and a decrease of 21 from 1922 and 27 from 1921.

Mississippi led with the number of lynchings, there being four. Arkansas next with two. Louisana, Missouri and Texas had one each. All the persons lynched were negroes. Offenses charged were: murder 4, attempted murder 2, rape 1, improper conduct 1, charge not reported 1.

Evergreen Ala Courant
JUL 14 1927

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same as the number for the six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

Florala, Ala News
JUL 14 1927

LYNCHING RECORD FOR 1ST SIX MONTHS 1927

The following information has been given out by R. R. Moton, principal Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute:

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research there were 9 lynchings in the first 6 months of 1927. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2, rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

Statesville, N. C., Landmark
JUL 14 1927

NINE LYNCHINGS IN SIX MONTHS

Mississippi Leads With Four and Alleged Murderers Are Principal Victims.

Tuskagee Institute, Ala., July 14.—The following record of lynchings in the United States for the first six months of this year has been compiled by Tuskagee institute:

There were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is four more than the number five for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923 ,21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, four; attempted murder, two; criminal attack one; improper conduct, one; charge not reported, one.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, two; Louisiana, one; Mississippi, four; Missouri, one; Texas, one.

Dunn, N. C., Dispatch
JUL 15 1927

NINE LYNCHINGS ARE REPORTED THIS YEAR

Tuskagee Institute, Ala., July 13.—The following record of lynchings in the United States for the first six months of this year has been compiled by Tuskagee institute:

There were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is four more than the number five for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, four; attempted murder, two; criminal attack one; improper conduct, one; charge not reported, one.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, two; Louisiana, one; Mississippi, four; Missouri, one; Texas, one.

Tylacauga, Ala. Advance
JUL 17 1927

TUSKEGEE RECORDS NINE LYNCHINGS

Tuskegee, Ala., July 15.—Nine lynchings have been recorded by Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute's record department for the first half of 1927.

The same number occurred in 1925 and 1926, according to the statement.

Mississippi led with four.

Jennings, La News
JUL 15 1927

NINE LYNCHINGS FIRST SIX MONTHS OF PRESENT YEAR

Tuskegee Institute, Ala., July 15.—I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six minths of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1927, there were 9 lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six month of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

Yours very truly,
R. R. MORTON,
Principal.

Arcadia, La. Democrat
JUL 14 1927

NINE LYNCHINGS IN SOUTH IN FIRST SIX MONTHS THIS YEAR

There were nine lynchings during the first six months of 1927, according to records compiled by Tuskegee Institute in Alabama. All of the victims were negroes.

The number is the same for the first six months of 1925 and 1926, 4 more than the number for a similar period in 1924, 6 less than that for 1923, 21 less than that for 1922, and 27 less than that for 1921.

The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The offenses charged were: murder curred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.
PACIFIC RURAL PRESS
JULY 23, 1927

2055

The Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute of Alabama reports that during the first six months of 1927 nine colored persons were lynched in the following states: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 1; Missouri 1; and Texas, 1.

Lynchings-1927
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan.-June.

2590

Carrollton, Ga. Times

JUL 14 1927

Lynching Record First Six Months of 1927

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, in the first six months of 1927, there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is four more than the number five for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number fifteen for the first six months of 1923, twenty-one less than the number thirty for the first six months of 1922, and twenty-seven less than the number thirty-six for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murded, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas 1.

Jeffersonville, Ga. Georgian

JUL 15 1927

Nine Are Lynched Since January 1st

Tuskegee, Ala., July 12.—There were nine lynchings during the first half of 1927, the department of records and research at Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Insitute announced today.

All of the persons lynched were negroes, the statement says, and were distributed among the states as follows: Arkansas 2; Louisiana 1; Mississippi 4; Missouri 1, and Texas 1.

The offenses charged were: Murder, four; attempted murder, two; rape, one; improper conduct, one; charge not reported, one; the institute's announcement stated.

The total number for the first half of this year equaled the figures for the first half of 1925-26 and was four more than the total for the first half of 1924. It was six less than the number for the first six months of 1923,21 lesstban the figure for the same period of 1922 and 27 less than the record for corresponding months of 1921.

Dawson, Ga., News

JUL 19 1927

NO GEORGIA LYNCHINGS DURING FIRST SIX MONTHS

Nine Have Occurred in Country, With Mississippi Leading.

According to records compiled at Tuskegee Institute, which have been furnished to The News, in the first six months of 1927 there were nine lynchings. This is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is four more than the number five for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number fifteen for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; assault, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

JUL 22 1927

Jackson, Ga., Progress-Argus

GEORGIA'S GOOD RECORD

For the first half of this year there was not a single lynching reported in Georgia, figures compiled by the Tukeegie Institute reveal. This is a splendid showing, and is taken to mean that Georgia is standing for orderly law enforcement. May the good record continue.

While Georgia has not had a lynching in six months, there have been entirely too many floggings and indiscriminate outbreaks of lawlessness. Night riding is almost as bad as lynching. The law is adequate to deal out punishment in any and all cases.

Outside of the larger cities, where the courts grind almost without interruption, there is not much crime in Georgia. On every hand is to be seen greater demand for law enforcement, and there is greater respect for law. This is as it should be.

Salt Lake City (Utah) Telegram
July 14, 1927

RECORD REVEALS NINE LYNCHINGS

Number Equals That for First Six Months of 1925 and 1926

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 13 (AP)—Nine lynchings were recorded during the first half of 1927 by the department of records and research at Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute here.

All of the persons lynched were negroes, the statement said, and were distributed among the states as follows:

Arkansas 2, Louisiana 1, Mississippi 4, Missouri 1 and Texas 1.

The offenses listed were:

Murder 6, attempted murder 2, rape 2, improper conduct 1, charge not reported 1. The total number for the first half of this year equalled the figures for the first half of 1925-26 and was four more than the total for the first half of 1924. It was six less than the number for the first six months of 1923, twenty-one less than the figures for the same period of 1922 and twenty-seven less than the record for corresponding months of 1921.

Ogden (Utah) Standard Examiner
July 16, 1927

LYNCHINGS ON DECREASE

Turkegee Normal and Industrial institute, founded by Booker T. Washington for the training of colored young men and women, keeps a record of all lynchings and every six months issues a bulletin the last one of which is as follows:

"According to the records compiled at Tuskegee institute in the department of records and research, in the first six months of 1927 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is four more than the number five for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921. All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1. The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

The records show that lynchings are decreasing. The southern states have discovered that law and order are best promoted by insisting that whatever the crime the law must operate and the mob spirit be suppressed.

Milledgeville, Ga., Union Recorder

JUL 28 1927

No Georgia Lynchings During First 6 Months

Nine Have Occurred in the Country, With Mississippi Leading.

According to records compiled at Tuskegee Institute, which have been furnished to The Recorder, in the first six months of 1927 there were nine lynchings This is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is four more than the number five for first six months of 1924, six less than the number fifteen for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; assault, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas. 1.

Waycross, Ga., Journal Herald

JUL 29 1927

NO LYNCHINGS IN GEORGIA FOR THE FIRST SIX MONTHS

R. R. Morton, principal of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute issues the following on lynchings for the first six months of 1927:

According to the records compiled at Tuskeege Institute in the department of records and research that in the first six months of 1927 there were nine lynchings. This is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is four more than the number five for the the first six months of 1924; six less than the number fifteen for the first six months of 1923; 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder 2; assault 1; improper conduct 1; charge not reported 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas 2; Louisiana 1; Mississippi 4; Missouri 1; Texas 1.

Vidalia, Ga., Advance

JUL 28 1927

NINE ARE LYNCHED SINCE JANUARY 1

ALL WERE NEGROES REPORTS OF TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE SHOW.

The Department of Records and Research shows that in the first six months of 1927, there were nine

lynchings. Ths number is the same as the number for the first six months the years 1925 and 1926; it is four more than the number, five, for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number, fifteen, for the first six months of 1923, twenty-one less than number, thirty, for the first six months of 1922, and twenty-seven less than the number, thirty-six, for the first six months of 1921.

All the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occured and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

Sylacauga Ala Advance
JUL 20 1927

TUSKEGEE RECORDS NINE LYNCHINGS

Tuskegee, Ala., July 15.—Nine lynchings have been recorded by Tuskegee Normal and Industrial institute's record department for the first half of 1927.

The same number occurred in 1925 and 1926, according to the statement.

Mississippi led with four.

Cuthbert Go Leader
JUL 28 1927

Lynching Statistics are Announced.

R. R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, at Tuskegee, Ala., announces that, according to the records compiled by the Department of Records and Research of that institute, there were 9 lynchings in the first six months of 1927. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924; 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

Butte (Mont.) Post
July 16, 1927

NO DECREASE IN LYNCHING

Nine Negroes Victims in First Six Months of 1927.

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research that in the first six months of 1927, there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is four more than the number five for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

BOISE CITY, UTAH
STANDARD EXAMINER
JULY 16, 1927

LYNCHINGS ON DECREASE

Turkegee Normal and Industrial institute, founded by Booker T. Washington for the training of colored young men and women, keeps a record of all lynchings and every six months issues a bulletin the last one of which is as follows:

"According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research, in the first six months of 1927 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is four more than the number five for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921. All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1. The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1."

The records show that lynchings are decreasing. The southern states have discovered that law and order are best promoted by insisting that whatever the crime the law must operate and the mob spirit be suppressed.

Alexander City Outlook
JUL 21 1927

LYNCHING RECORD FOR THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1927

Dear Sir:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1927, there were 9 lynchings This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924; 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

Yours very truly,
R. R. MOTON,
Principal Tuskegee Institute.

Dublin, Ga., Courier-Herald
JUL 13 1927

Nine Lynchings For The First Six Months 1927 It Has Been Announced

Tuskegee Institute, Ala., July 13.—According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, in the first six months of 1927, there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924 6 les sthan the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

Talladega Ala Home
JUL 13 1927

NINE LYNCHINGS IN SOUTH IN 1927

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 13.—Nine lynchings were recorded during the first half of 1927 by the department of records and research at Tuskegee Normal and Industrial institute here.

All of the persons lynched were negroes, the statement said, and were distributed among the states as follows:

Arkansas 2; Louisiana 1; Mississippi 4; Missouri 1 and Texas 1.

Ga.
Sam
JUN 14 1927

Nine Are Lynched Since January 1st

Tuskegee, Ala., July 12.—There were nine lynchings during the first half of 1927, the department of records and research at Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Insitute announced today.

All of the persons lynched were negroes, the statement says, and were distributed amonz the states as follows: Arkansas 2; Louisiana 1; Mississippi 4; Missouri 1, and Texas 1.

The offenses charged were: Murder, four; attempted murder, two; rape, one; improper conduct, one; charge not reported, one; the institute's announcement stated.

The total number for the first half of this year equaled the figures for the first half of 1925-26 and was four more than the total for the first half of 1924. It was six less than the number for the first six months of 1923,21 lessthan the figure for the same period of 1922 and 27 less than the record for corresponding months of 1921.

Anniston, Ala., Star
JUL 13 1927

TUSKEEGEE RECORDS NINE LYNCHINGS

Tuskegee, Ala., July 13. (UP)—Nine lynchings have been recorded by Tuskegee Normal and Industrial institute's record department for the first half of 1927.

The same number occurred in 1925 and 1926, according to the statement.

Mississippi led with four.

Lynchings - 1927
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan - June.

2591

Kallspell (Mont.) Interlake
July 16, 1927

LYNCHINGS ON DECREASE

A report from the Tuskegee Institute shows that lynching is on the decrease, which indicates that as a nation we are becoming more law abiding.

The report shows that there were six lynchings in the first six months of 1927. For similar periods there were 36 in 1921; 30 for 1922; 15 for 1923; five for 1924; and nine each for the years 1925, 1926, and 1927.

While a record of nine lynchings in a six-months period is a good many, a remarkable decrease is shown in recent years. The states in which the lynchings occurred this year were Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, and Texas. In each case the victims were Negroes, and with two exceptions the offenses charged were most heinous.

While this might seem like racial prejudice, the southerners seem to have a way of employing force to regulate the conduct of whites as well. Only recently in Alabama a woman and her son were beaten for alleged immoral conduct by a group of masked men, headed by a man occupying the position of a high school, as well as being superintendent of a Sunday school. Reports of other occurrences of a similar nature have come from the same state, and it is reported that the legislature is about to pass legislation to curb such crimes.

While there are exaggerated cases in all states which seem to require swift and drastic punishment, the only safe course is to allow the law to deal with the offenders; otherwise the very foundations of our government are likely to be undermined.

If those who participate in the lynching of Negroes and beating those of their own race whose morals do not conform to their ideals, would lend their efforts toward tightening up the laws, and in helping to secure evidence of violations, there would be no occasion for mob violence.

Star
Anniston, Ala
JUL 14 1927

Lynchings Continue At Same Rate For Three Consecutive Years

Lynchings recorded so far this year by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute show that no progress is being made toward eliminating this inhuman form of exacting justice. Still it might be some satisfaction to note that the number of lynchings have not increased over the same period in 1925 and 1926, the records showing the same number for each year.

Mississippi is shown to have furnished four of the nine lynchings reported in the first half of 1927. That record should cause authorities of the state to devote every known means toward an effort to prevent a recurrence of a like number of outrages in the future.

compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1927, there were 9 lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the year 1925 and 1926; it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 in the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder 2; rape,1; improper conduct 1; charge not reported,1.

The state in which lynchings occured and the number in each state are as folows, Arkansas, 2: Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri 1; Texas 1.

R. R. Moton, Principal of the Tuskegee Norman and Industrial Institute. Alabama.

Tifton, Ga., Gazette
Tifton, Ga., Reporter
JUL 13 1927

NINE LYNCHINGS IN SIX MONTH

Same Number As For Similar Period Of Last Two Years.

Tuskegee, Ala., July 13.—According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research in the first six months of 1927, there were nine lynchings.

This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is four more than the number, five, for the first six months of 1924; six less than the number, fifteen, for the first six months of 1923; twenty-one less than the number, thirty, for the first six months of 1922, and twenty-seven less than the number, thirty-six, for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana; 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

ORANGEBURG, S. C., Democ
JUL 14 1927

Nine Lynched First Half of The Year 1927

The Lynching Record for the first Six months of 1927 is given in the following letter to the Times and Democrat:

Dear Sirs:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records

Pilot
Blair, Neb.
JUL 27 1927

LYNCHING RECORD FOR THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1927

The following letter is sent us by R. R. Morton, principal of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute founded by the late Booker T. Washington:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1927, there were 9 lynchings.

This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows, Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

SELMA, ALA., Journal
JUL 13 1927

No Lynchings In State During Past 6 Months, Tuskegee Report Says

Lynchings in the United States for the first six months of 1927 number 9, according to records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of record and research, and made public by Dr. R. R. Moton, principal. The number is the same as the number of lynchings in the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926. No lynchings occurred in Alabama.

All of the persons lynched were negroes against whom the charges were as follows: murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported 1.

States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are given as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

The first six months of 1924 recorded only four lynchings, and the record for this year is five more than this number. It is six less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

Dallas county, according to local statistics, has been free of lynchings for many years, with no lynchings recorded within the county for more than 25 years.

Crime of all sorts in Dallas county is on the decrease, it is shown by the records.

Eastonian, Co., Times-Journal

JUL 14 1927

Lynching Record First Six Months Of Year 1927

According to a letter to The Times-Journal, received Tuesday from Robert H. Morton, principal of Tuskegee Institute, Tuskegee, Ala., which institution compiles a record of the lynchings each year in the United States, there were nine lynchings in the country during the first six months of the year 1927.

Following is the record as compiled by the above institution:

This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is four more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4, Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

NEWS

Michigan City, Ind.

JUL 14 1927

LYNCHINGS FOR SIX MONTHS, '27

Victims Were All Negroes, All In Five Southern States

Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute for colored people at Tuskegee, Alabama, an institution for the education and training of colored people sends out the following record of lynching for the first six months of 1927.

The report as compiled shows a record of nine lynchings from January 1st to July 1st. Coincident the number of lynchings for the first six months of 1927 is the same as those of 1925 and 26 for the same period of six months. It is, however, four more than the number for the first six months of 1924 which was only 5: In the same period for the year 1923 shows a record of fifteen lynchings. This year shows a decrease of 21 less than 1922; in which six months period there were 30 lynchings. In the first six months of 1921 there were 36 lynchings.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offences charged were as follows: murder, four; attempte murder, two; rape, one; improper conduct, one; in one case charges no given.

The states in which the lynching occurred, and the numbers in eacl state are as follows: Arkansas, two Louisiana, one; Mississippi, four Missouri, one: Texas, one.

Lawrenceville, Ga., Dispatch

JUL 14 1927

Nine Lynchings First Half Year

The following are statistics compiled at the Tuskegee Institute, Tuskegee, Ala., and released by President R. R. Morton fro publication.

Dear Sir:-

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1927, there were 9 lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the frist six months of 1925 and 1926; it is 4 more than the number 4 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number of 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1: Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas 1.

NEWS

Bladeby, Ga.

JUL 21 1927

LYNCHING STATISTICS ARE ANNOUNCED

R. R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, at Tuskegee, Ala., announces that, according to the records compiled by the Department of Records and Research of that institute, that there were 9 lynchings in the first six months of 1927. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924; 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

INDEPENDENT

Grand Ledge, Mich.

JUL 21 1927

LYNCHING RECORD

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, in the first six months of 1927, there were 9 lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is four more than the number five for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number fifteen for the first six months of 1923, twenty-one less than the number thirty for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number thirty six for the first six months of 1921.

All the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were murder, four; attempted murder, two; rape, one; improper conduct, one; charge not reported, one.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, two; Louisiana, one Mississippi, four; Missouri, one; Texas, one.

ATLANTA, GA. Constitution

JUL 13 1927

NINE LYNCHINGS RECORDED IN 1927 BY NEGRO SCHOOL

Tuskegee, Aa., July 12.—(AP)—Nine lynchings were recorded during the first half of 1927 by the department of records and research at Tuskegee Normal and Industrial institute here.

All of the persons lynched were negroes, the statement said, and were distributed among the states as follows: Arkansas 2, Louisiana 1, Mississippi 4, Missouri 1 and Texas 1.

The offenses charged were: Murder 4, attempted murder 2, rape 1, improper conduct 1, charge not reported 1 the institute's announcement stated.

The total number for the first half of this year equaled the figures for the first half of 1925-26 and was four more than the total for the first half of 1924. It was six less than the number for the first six months of 1923, 21 less that the figure for the same period of 1922 and 27 less than the record for corresponding months of 1921.

New Smyrna, Fla. News

JUL 12 1927

NINE LYNCHINGS IN SOUTH FOR FIRST HALF OF THE YEAR

TUSKEEGEE, Ala., July 12—(AP)—Nine lynchings were recorded during the first half of 1927 by the Tuskeegee Normal Industrial Institute here, all of the victims being negroes.

Distributed among the various states in this section, the totals are, Arkansas two, Louisiana one, Mississippi four, Missouri one and Texas one.

Anniston, Ala., Star

JUL 14 1927

Lynchings Continue At Same Rate For Three Consecutive Years

Lynchings recorded so far this year by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute show that no progress is being made toward eliminating this inhuman form of exacting justice. Still it might be some satisfaction to note that the number of lynchings have not increased over the same period in 1925 and 1926, the records showing the same number for each year.

Mississippi is shown to have furnished four of the nine lynchings reported in the first half of 1927. That record should cause authorities of the state to devote every known means toward an effort to prevent a recurrence of a like number of outrages in the future.

EXAMINER

Bellefontaine, O.

JUL 16 1927

LYNCHING RECORD.

Editor Examiner:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Departmen of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1927, there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is four more than the number five for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows, Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

R. R. MOTON, Principal.

July 9, 1927. Tuskegee Institute.

Lynchings - 1927
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan. — June.

2592

Uniontown Ala. Star

JUL 16 1927

LYNCHING RECORD FIRST SIX MONTHS

TUSKEEGEE, Ala. July 15—According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1927, there were 9 lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 9924, 6 less than the number for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reorted, 1.

The state in which lynching occurred and the number in each state are as follows Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

1, Mississippi 4, Missouri 1, and Texas 1.

The offenses charged were: murder 4, attempted murder 2, rape 1, improper conduct 1, charge not reported 1, the institute's announcement stated. The total number for the first half of this year equalled the figures for the first half of 1925-26 and was four more than the total for the first half of 1924. It was six less than the number for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the figure for the same period of 1922 and 27 less than the record for corresponding months of 1921.

Democrat - Ky
Commonwealth

JUL 20 1927

NINE LYNCHINGS FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1927

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, Alabama, there were nine lynchings in the United States in the first six months of this year. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926. All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1, and charge not reported, 1. The lynchings occurred in Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri and Texas.

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1927, there were 9 lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

York - S.C.
Enquirer

JUL 15 1927

THE LYNCHING RECORD

Furnished By Robert R. Moton, of Tuskegee Institute.

Tuskegee, Ala., July 11.—I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1927, there were 9 lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

Vienna, Ga., News

JUL 21 1927

NO GEORGIA LYNCHINGS DURING FIRST SIX MONTHS

Nine Have Occured in Country, With Mississippi Leading

Accrding to records compiled at Tuskegee Institute, which have been furnished to the News, in the first six months of 1927 there were nine lynchings. This is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is four more than the number five for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number fifteen for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; assault, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas 2, Lousiana 1, Mississippi, 4; Missouri 1, Texas 1

Rock Hill - S.C.
Herald

JUL 13 1927

Data on Lynchings Given by Institute

Tuskeegee, Ala., July 13.—There were nine lynchings during the first half of 1927, the department of records and research at Tuskegee Normal and Industrial institute announced yesterday.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes, the statement said, and were distributed among the states as follows:

Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas,

The offsenses charged were: Murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1, the institute's announcement stated.

The total number for the first half of this year equalled the figures for the first half of 1925-26 and was four more than the total for the first half of 1924. It was six fewer than the number for the first six months of 1923, 21 fewer than the figure for the same period of 1922 and 27 fewer than the record for corresponding months of 1921.

Millen, Ga., News

JUL 21 1927

LYNCHING RECORD FOR FIRST SIX MONTHS 1927

Dear Sir:

I send you the following information concerning lynching records for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1927, there were 9 lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the year 1925 and 1926; it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923. 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1921.

All the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; and charge snot reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas. 1.

Yours very truly,
R. R. MOTON, Prin.

Aiken, S. C., Journal & Review

JUL 20 1927

LYNCHING RECORD FOR FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1927

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1927, there were 9 lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925

Abbeville, S. C., Press & Banner

JUL 18 1927

Nine Lynchings First Half of 1927

Four of Them Were in Mississippi. None in South Carolina.—All Were Negroes.

Tuskogee, Ala., July 13.—There were nine lynchings during the first half of 1927, the department of records and research at Tuskogee Normal and Industrial Institute announced today. All of the persons lynched were negroes, the statement said, and were distributed among the states as follows: Askansas 2, Louisiana

AMERICUS, GA

JUL 12 1927

LYNCHING RECORD—.

In the record of lynchings in the country during the first six months of 1927, Georgia does not appear, and that is information which will be received with pleasure by every Georgian. During the six months there were nine lynchings, according to the following letter from R. R. Morton, principal of the Tuskegee Industrial Institute, addressed to the editor:

and 1926; it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynching occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

Cochran, Ga., Journal

JUL 21 1927

No Georgia Lynchings During First Six Months

Nine Have Occurred in Country, With Missippi Leading

According to records compiled at Tuskegee Institute, which have been furnished to the Journal, in the first six months of 1927 there were nine lynchings. This is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is four more than the number five for the first six months of 1924; six less than the number fifteen for the first six months of 1923; 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; sault, 1; improper conduct, 1; not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchin curred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas2; Louisiana 1; Mississippi4; Missouri 1; Texas 1.

Lynching Record for the First Six Months of 1927

To the Editor of the National Negro Voice:—

Tuskegee Institute, Ala., July 9.—I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the depart-

ment of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1927, there were 9 lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924; 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of the year 1923; 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1 charge not reported, 1.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas,2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Texas, 1.

Yours very truly,

R. R. MOTON, Principal.

JOURNAL

JUL 12 1927

9 Lynchings Reported First Half of 1927

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 12.—(AP)—Nine lynchings were recorded during the first half of 1927 by the department of records and research at Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute here.

All of the persons lynched were negroes, the statement said, and were distributed among the states as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1, and Texas, one.

The offenhes charged were: Murder, 4; attempter murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1, the institute's announcement stated.

The total number for the first half of this year equalled the figures for thef irst half of 1925-26 and was four more than the total for the first half of 1924. It was six less than the number for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the figure for the same period of 1922, and 27 less than the record for corresponding months of 1921.

JOURNAL
TOPEKA, KANS.

JUL 19 1927

THE YEAR'S LYNCHINGS.

The Mississippi flood did not interfere with the harvest of lynchings in the south for the first six months of the year. According to the records of the Tuskegee institute, the colored school founded by Booker T. Washington, there were nine lynchings in the United States in that period. The number is the same as in the first six months of 1925 and the first six months of 1924, when there was no flood to distract the white gentry from their usual pursuits.

All of the persons lynched this year were negroes.

The lynchings occurred in the following states: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

The offenses charged against the victims were: Murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; "improper conduct," 1; not specified, 1. In this tabulation, the fact that rape occurs only once is notable, as the southern defense of lynching is usually based on the imagined necessity of restraining what the southerners suppose to be the peculiar carnality of the black people. During the same period, of course, white men have committed all the crimes with which the colored men were charged in these instances. Lynching does not result from abhorrence of crime; it results generally from the hatred of another race, which, in the localities where lynching flourishes most, is politically and economically helpless.

Thomasville, Ga. Enterprise

JUL 12 1927

NO LYNCHINGS IN GEORGIA FOR FIRST HALF OF THE YEAR

Tuskegee Institute Records Show Total of 9 Lynchings, With Mississippi Leading With Total of 4.—All of Those Lynched Negroes.

Tuskegee, Ala., July 12 (AP)—There were nine lynchings during the first half of 1927, the department of records and research at Tuskegee normal and Industrial institute announced today.

All of the persons lynched were negroes, the statement said, and were distributed among the states as follows:

Arkansas 2; Louisiana 1: Mississippi 4; Missouri 1, and Texas 1.

The offenses charged were:

Murder 4; attempted murder 2; rape 1; improper conduct 1; charge not reported 1, the institute's announcements stated.

The total number of the first half of this year equalled the figures for the first half of 1925-26 and was four more than the total for the first half of 1924. It was six less than the number for the first six months of 192, 21 less than the figure for the same period of 1922 and 27 less than the record corresponding months of 1921.

Thomasville, Ga. Enterprise

JUL 15 1927

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Birmingham, Ala., The Post

JUL 13 1927

NINE LYNCHINGS

Six Months Mark Stands With '25 And '26

There were only nine lynchings in the southern states for the first six months of 1927, R. R. Moton.

president of Tuskegee Institute, announced today.

This number compares with nine in both 1925 and 1926, and with 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, 4; criminal assault, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

Mississippi had four lynchings, Arkansas, two, and Louisiana, Missouri and Texas, one each.

Columbus, Ga. Enquirer-Sun

JUL 12 1927

NINE LYNCHED IN SIX MONTHS

Statistics Given By Tuskegee Institute For First Half of Year—All the Mob Victims Negroes.

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 11.—Special to the Enquirer-Sun—The following statement regarding lynchings was made public today by Dr. R. R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Institute:

"I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research that in the grst six months of 1927, there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the grst six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

"All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct 1; charge not reported 1.

"The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1."

Lynchings - 1927
Reports on, Sant Press.

Jan. - June.

2593

REVIEW
Florence, S. C.
JUL 14 1927

THE LYNCHING RECORD

While dark spots have been made by the state's homicide record let us be thankful that South Carolina shows a clean sheet for the past six months insofar as lynchings are concerned. This state has had no part in the shameful record which is kept at Tuskegee Institute. There is some degree of hope in the fact that there has been no increase in lynchings for the past two years. On the other hand the number has decreased. Here is the report sent out by Dr. Morton, the principal of Tuskeegee:

"I find, according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research, that in the first six months of 1927, there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is four more than the number five for the first six months of 1924; six less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

"All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

"The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1."

FLORENCE, S. C., M
Review
JUL 14 1927 July.

THE LYNCHING R., RD

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"All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

"The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1."

Hoschton, Ga., News
JUL 21 1927

NO LYNCHING IN GEORGIA THIS YEAR

T. 116

The ointment is not full of flies. Georgia hasn't had a lynching during the year of 1927. Is it too much to hope that we shall not have one? At any rate we are going to hope it.

The lynching record for the country over, however, is no better than for the first half of 1926, but we should all be thankful for this—and we are.

The record for the first six months of this year, as complied by Rev. R. Moton, principal Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, shows that nine were lynched, all negroes. The offense charged were murder, 4; attemped murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

There were only nine lynchings too many in the United States the first half of this year.—Dalton Citizen.

TRIBUNE
Bismarck, N. D.
JUL 19 1927

The South and Lynchings

The Tuskegee Institute reports that nine lynchings have taken place in the southern states during 1927. This represents the total for the whole country, none being recorded from northern states.

These figures represent no decrease from the total for the first six months of 1926, but when they are compared with the total for years previous, they cast a remarkable light on the south.

For the first six months of 1923, the total was 15; for the first six months of 1922, 30, and for the first six months of 1921, 36.

Here is a decrease of 300 per cent in six years, and indications are that it is due to continue. What it means is that the south is beginning to realize that mob law is a dangerous thing, inimical to its own interests. Southerners have discovered that a lynching record isn't looked upon with much favor in other parts of the country. They are taking action toward erasing this blot.

Courts and officials have been, to a great extent, responsible for this comparatively sudden shift. Where five or ten years ago, mobs storming a jail in search of an accused man would be handed the keys by the sheriff and told to go ahead, today they are halted with soldiers and guns acting as a bar to their efforts. The recent riots in Tampa proved this. Instead of meekly submitting to the will of the mob, the sheriff stationed armed guards before his jail. He repelled the invaders, and his prisoner received all the fair treatment and justice which the constitution provides for an accused man.

This is convincing proof that the south has at last awakened. Realization that courts are intended to administer justice has dawned upon its people. The backwoodsman and the city dweller both are beginning to see that justice at the end of a rope isn't fair and isn't right. They are helping to bury a disgraceful institution—an institution which belongs to prehistoric days.

BELLEVILLE ILL NEWS-DEM
THURSDAY, JULY 14, 1927.

"Tuskegee Institute, Alabama,
"July 9, 1927.

"Hon. Fred. J. Kern, Editor News-Democrat,
"Belleville, Ill.
"Dear Sir:

"I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year, 1927. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1927, there were 9 lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

"All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

"The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

"Yours very truly,
"R. R. MOTON, Principal."

The point which Mr. Moton means to make is that the Negro race is the victim of the lynching age. He is justified in his conclusion. Rape may be a black man's crime, but lynching is a white man's crime and it is a worse offense than rape. White men rape women, too, but they are never lynched for it. There are more white murderers than darkies, but neither are they lynched. We quite agree that the Negroes do not get a square deal in this country. They really have a kick coming.

JOURNAL
PEORIA, ILL.
JUL 25 1927

LYNCHINGS

The lynchings in the United States for the first six months of this year totalled nine, the same as last year. Is our national lynching "stabilized" at that new level?

Regrettable as every one of the lynchings was, the figure represents a great gain over old records. When the past shame of the United States in this regard is considered, much satisfaction may be felt in reducing the number so low, comparatively, and holding it there. It is a triumph for law and order, in a country which is not so lawless as it is often painted.

No wonder lynchings diminish, when such a breed of public officials is developing in southern cities as was demonstrated not long ago in Tampa, when a mob tried to lynch a prisoner. Every such manful stand on the part of public authority is a victory for civilization.

Commerce, Ga., News
JUL 14 1927

THE LYNCHING RECORD FOR FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1927

Tuskegee Institute, Ala., July 9—I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Record and Research that in the first six monhs of 1927 there were 9 lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the year 1925 and 1926; it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder 4; attempted murder 2; rape 1; improper conduct 1; charge not reported 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas 2; Louisiana 1; Mississippi 4; Missouri, 1; Texas 1.

R. R. Morton, Prin.

Ing Exam
OCALA, FLA
Star
JUL 12 1927

NINE LYNCHING FOR SIX MONTHS PERIOD OF 1927

Tuskegee, Ala., July 12.—(AP)—Nine lynchings were recorded during the first half of 1927 by Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute here. All were negroes, distributed among the states at follows: Arkansas, two; Lousiana, one; Mississippi, four; Missouri, one; Texas, one.

Carlisle Co. Progress
JUL 12 1927

GEORGIA HAS CLEAN LYNCHING RECORD

TUSKEGEE Ala. July 12—(AP) Nine lynchings were recorded during the first half of 1927 for the department of records and research at Tuskegee Normal and Industrial here. All of the persons lynched were negroes the statement said and were distributed among the states as follows: Arkansas 2; Louisiana 1, Mississippi 4, Missouri 1, Texas 1.

Fitzgerald, Ga. Herald
JUL 12 1927

THE LYNCHING RECORD FOR THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1927

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1927, there were 9 lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4 attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

R. R. MOTON, PRINCIPAL.

Savannah, Ga. News
JUL 13 1927

NINE LYNCHINGS RECORDED

Mississippi Leads With Four For First Half of 1927.

Tuskegee, Ala., July 12, (AP)—There were 9 lynchings during the first half 1927, the department of records and research at Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute announced today.

All of the persons lynched were negroes, the statement said, and were distributed among the states as follows: Arkansas 2; Louisiana 1; Mississippi 4; Missouri 1 and Texas 1.

The offenses charged were; murder 4; attempted murder 2; rape 1; improper conduct 1, charge not reported 1, the institute's announcement stated.

The total number for the first half of this year equalled the figures for the first half of 1925-26 and was four more than the total for the first half of 1924. It was 6 less than the number for the first 6 months of 1923, 21 less than the figures for the same period of 1923 and 27 less than the record for corresponding months of 1921.

Montgomery, Ala., Advertiser
JUL 13 1927

NINE LYNCHINGS IN SOUTH IN 1927

Mississippi Leads With Four; Arkansas Two; Equals Last Year Figures

TUSKEGEE, ALA., July 12.—(AP)—Nine lynchings were recorded during the first half of 1927 by the department of records and research at Tuskegee Normal and Industrial institute here.

All of the persons lynched were negroes, the statement said, and were distributed among the states as follows:

Arkansas 2; Louisiana 1; Mississippi 4; Missouri 1 and Texas 1.

The offenses charged were: murder 4; attempted murder 2; rape 1; improper conduct 1; charge not reported, the institute's announcement stated.

The total number for the first half of this year equalled the figures for the first half of 1925-26 and was four more than the total for the first half of 1924. It was six less than the number for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the figures for the same period of 1923 and 27 less than the record for corresponding months of 1921.

Lynchings-1927
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan. - June.

2594

33 Lynched In '26 Include 2 Women, 3 Whites, 1 Indian

Florida Leads With 8; Texas, 5; And Mississippi, 4. N. A. A. C. P. Lays Increase To Senate's Failure To Act

NEW YORK.—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, reports 33 recorded lynchings in the United States for the year as against 18 last year. Florida leads the lynching States with 8; Texas is second with 5, and Mississippi third with 4. The other States having recorded lynchings are as follows: Arkansas, South Carolina and Georgia, 3 each; Louisiana and Tennessee, 2 each; and Kentucky, New Mexico and Virginia, 1 each.

Of the victims of lynching mobs three were white, one was a Navajo Indian and among the victims were two colored women, one of them lynched at Aiken, South Carolina, and one near Houston, Texas.

One of the mob victims had been ordered acquitted by the presiding judge at his trial, one in Texas was shot by white officers while manacled, one was accused of house-breaking, and among the alleged offenses of the victims were: entering the room of a white woman; murder; and three Negroes were killed in Texas in revenge for a crime with which they had no direct connection.

A statement issued by James Weldon Johnson, Secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored ePople, lays the increase in lynchings to the failure of the United States S ..ate to take action on a federal anti-lynching bill. Mr. Johnsons statement says:

"There is one excellent and reasonable explanation of the increase from 18 lynchings in 1925 to 33 in 1926. While there was threat of a federal law, with consequent jurisdiction of federal courts over this crime, the lynchers hesitated. When the United States Senate refused even to discuss the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill, that was equivalent to serving notice on the lynchers that they could pursue their pastime virtually unmolested.

"So far only one lynching, and that one in Georgia has been visited by punishment at the hands of the law. The United States Senate refuses to discuss the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill, because of the obstructionist tactics of a small group of Senators from the lynching States."

persons lynched were Negroes, the statement said, and were dis tributed anong the States as fol tributed among the states as fol Mississippi 4; Missouri 1 and Texas 1.

Lynching Closes Florida Year

With the lynching of a colored Florida resident on the last day of the year, the total number of such deaths for 1926 was raised to 34. There were 18 lynchings in 1925; 16 in 1924; 28 in 1923, 16 in 1922 and 6 in 1921. The final victim of 1926 was a woodchopper who protested when he received from a white woman less money for his work than had been agreed on. He was accused of insulting a white woman and was lynched by a mob at Waldo, Fla.

Lynching Report Fails to Cover Many Outrages

Tuskegee, Okla., July 15.—Nine lynchings were recorded during the first six months of 1927 by Prof. Monroe Work, head of the department of statistics of Tuskegee institute. There were reported from Arkansas, two; Louisiana, one; Mississippi, four; Missouri, one, and Texas, one. The numbers are reported to equal the record for the first half of 1925-26, and was four more than for the first half of 1924, six less than for the six months of 1923, 21 less than for the said period of 1922, and 27 less than that part fo 1921.

These records are only of the officially recorded lynchings. Many persons have been made victims of mobs throughout the South that are never brought to the attention of the world. People have been shot down on the streets, killed on peonage farms, flogged to death and done away with without people outside of the vicinity hearing of it. A number of citizens have disappeared from their homes recently in the South mysteriously. There is far in excess of nine lynchings in the South during the past six months. Each week several murders occur of which bureaus and social agencies are never able to make reports.

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 2a. Nine lynchings were recorded during the first half of 1927 by the department of record and research at Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institution. All the

ADVANCEMENT ASSOCIATION BLAMES U. S. CONGRESS FOR LYNCHING LEAGUE SHOWING

New York City.—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 69 Fifth Avenue, reports 33 recorded lynchings in the United States for the year as against 18 last year. Florida leads the lynching states with 8, Texas is second with 5, and Mississippi third with 4. The other states having recorded lynchings are as follows: Arkansas, South Carolina and Georgia, 3 each; Louisiana and Tennessee, 2 each; and Kentucky, New Mexico and Virginia, 1 each.

Of the victims of lynching mobs three were white, one was a Navajo Indian and among the victims were two colored women, one of them lynched at Aiken, South Carolina, and one near Houston, Texas.

One of the mob victims had been ordered acquitted by the presiding judge at his trial, one in Texas was shot by white officers while manacled, one was accused of house-breaking, and among the alleged offenses of the victims were: entering the room of a white woman; murder; and three Negroes were killed in Texas in revenge for a crime with which they had no direct connection.

A statement issued by James Weldon Johnson, secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, lays the increase in lynchings to the failure of the United States senate to take action on a federal anti-lynching bill. Mr. Johnson's statement says:

"There is one excellent and reasonable explanation of the increase from 18 lynchings in 1925 to 33 in 1926. While there was threat of a federal law, with consequent jurisdiction of federal courts over this crime, the lynchers hesitated. When the United States Senate refused even to discuss the Dyer anti-lynching bill, that was equivalent to serving notice on the lynchers that they could pursue their pastime virtually unmolested.

"So far only one lynching, and that one in Georgia, has been visited by punishment at the hands of the law. The United States senate refuses to discuss the Dyer anti-lynching bill, because of the obstructionist tactics of a small group of senators from the lynching states."

9 LYNCHINGS IN HALF YEAR

Mississippi Leads With A Total Of Four, Showing An Increase

TUSGEGEE, Ala., July 13.—Nine lynchings were recorded in the first half of 1927 by the department of records and research of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute.

All persons lynched were Colored Americans statement said, and were distributed among the states as follows: Ark., 2; La., 1; Miss., 4; Mo., 1 and Tex., 1.

The offenses listed were: murder 4; attempt murder 2; rape 1; improper conduct 1; charge not reported 1.

The total number for the first half of this year equaled the figures for the first half of 1925 and 1926 and was four more than the total for the first half of 1924.

It was six less than the number for the first six months of 1923, twenty-one less than the same figures of the same period of 1922 and twenty-seven less than the record for corresponding months of 1921.

NINE LYNCHED DURING FIRST HALF OF 1927

(Preston News Service).

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 18.—Nine lynchings were recorded during the first half of 1927 by the department of record and research at Tuskegee normal and industrial institute. All of the persons lynched were Negroes, the statement said, and were distributed among the states as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri 1, and Texas 1.

THE LYNCHING RECORD FOR THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1927

Dear Sir:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1927, there were 9 lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occured and the number in each state are as follows Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

Yours very truly,

R. R. MOTON, Principal.

NINE LYNCHINGS RECORDED IN 1927 BY NEGRO SCHOOL

Tuskegee, Aa., May 12.—(AP)—Nine lynchings were recorded during the first half of 1927 by the department of records and research at Tuskegee Normal and Industrial institute here.

All of the persons lynched were negroes, the statement said, and were distributed among the states as follows: Arkansas 2, Louisiana 1, Mississippi 4, Missouri 1 and Texas 1.

The offenses charged were: Murder 4, attempted murder 2, rape 1, improper conduct 1, charge not reported 1 the institute's announcement stated.

The total number for the first half of this year equaled the figures for the first half of 1925-26 and was four more than the total for the first half of 1924. It was six less than the number for the first six months of 1923, 21 less that the figure for the same period of 1922 and 27 less than the record for corresponding months of 1921.

ABOUT THE SAME AS EVER

Twice each year the News gets a letter from R. R. Moton, principal of the Tuskegee Institute, in which he tells of the lynching record for the past six months.

Here is what he says of the first six months of the present year:

"I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute that in the first six months of 1927 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

"All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported 1.

"The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.'

Lynching Record First Six Months of 1927

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find, according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, that in the first six months of 1927 there were 9 lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were murder 4, attempted murder 2, rape 1, improper conduct 1, charge not reported 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas 2, Louisiana 1, Mississippi 4, Missouri 1, and Texas 1.

R. R. MOTON,
Principal.

Lynching Record for the First Six Months of 1927

A complete record compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research in the first six months of 1927 there were 9 lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

THE LYNCHIN RECORD FOR THE FIRT SIX Months of 1927

Editor Louisville News,

Dear Sir:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1927 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is four more than the number five for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number fifteen for the first six minths of 1923, twenty-one less than than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 ,and twenty-seven less than the number thirty-six for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons were Negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder,2; rape,1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The stats in which lynchings occured and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1 Texas, 1.

Yours very truly,
R. R. MOTON, Principal
TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala.

AMERICAN LYNCHERS SCORE 9 FOR FIRST SIX MONTHS

TUSKEGEE, Ala.— According to figures made public here today by the Department of Research of Tuskegee Institute, there were nine lynchings in America during the six months ending July 1.

This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1926 and 1925. All the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

THE LYNCHING RECORD FOR THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1927

Editor The Advertiser:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research that in the first six months of 1927, there were 9 lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

R. R. MOTON.
Tuskegee, Alabama.

9 LYNCHED IN 6 MOS.

RECORD FOR FIRST SIX MONTHS SAME AS FOR 1925 AND 1926— FOUR MORE THAN FOR 1924— TUSKEGEE SENDS THE STATISTICS OUT — MISS. LEADS—ALL COLORED

Tuskegee Institute, Ala., July 9, 1927—According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research in the first six months of 1927 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is four more than the number five for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six month 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were Afro-Americans. The offenses charged wer emurder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

9 LYNCHINGS IN SIX MONTHS

TUSKEGEE, Ala.—Nine lynchings were recorded in the first half of 1927 by the department of records and research at Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute.

All persons lynched were colored Americans, the statement said, and were distributed among the states as follows: Arkansas 2, Louisiana 1, Mississippi 4, Missouri 1 and Texas 1.

The offenses listed were: murder 4, attempted murder 2, rape 1, improper conduct 1, charge not reported 1.

The total number for the first half of this year equaled the figures for the first half of 1925 and 1926 and was four more than the total for the first half of 1924.

Nine Negroes Lynched During Half Year

Tuskegee Record Department Tells Of Mob Violence In The United States

Tuskegee, Ala., July 9—The lynching record for the first six mothns of 1927, as compiled by Tuskegee Institute show that there were 9 lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926; it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 4; attempted murder, 2; rape, 1; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows Arkansas, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 1; Texas 1.

NINE LYNCHINGS IN SOUTH IN 1927

Mississippi Leads With Four; Arkansas Two; Equals Last Year Figures

TUSKEGEE, ALA., July 12.—(AP)—Nine lynchings were recorded during the first half of 1927 by the department of records and research at Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute here.

All of the persons lynched were negroes, the statement said, and were distributed among the states as follows:

Arkansas 2; Louisiana 1; Mississippi 4; Missouri 1 and Texas 1.

The offenses charged were: murder 4; attempted murder 2; rape 1; improper conduct 1; charge not reported, the institute's announcement stated.

The total number for the first half of this year equalled the figures for the first half of 1925-26 and was four more than the total for the first half of 1924. It was six less than the number for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the figures for the same period of 1922 and 27 less than the record for corresponding months of 1921.

RECORD
COLUMBIA, S. C.
JUL 13 1927

NINE LYNCHINGS IN FIRST HALF OF 1927; NONE IN THIS STATE

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 13.—(AP)—There were nine lynchings during the first half of 1927, the department of records and research at Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute announced today.

All of the persons lynched were negroes, the statement said, and were distributed among the states as follows:

Arkansas 2, Louisiana 1, Mississippi 4, Missouri 1, and Texas 1.

The offenses charged were: murder 4, attempted murder 2, rape 1, improper conduct 1, charge not reported 1, the institute's announcement stated.

The total number for the first half of this year equalled the figures for the first half of 1925-26 and was four more than the total for the first half of 1924. It was six less than the number for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the figure for the same period of 1922 and 27 less than the record for corresponding months of 1921.

Lynchings - 1927 Jan.-Dec.

Reports on Sent Press.

2595

LEBANON, KY., ENTERPRISE.
JANUARY 13, 1928

Lynchings In 1927.

R. R. Morton, principal of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, Alabama, furnishes the following figures:

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern States. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 whites and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were—murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the murder in each State are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 7; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

SPRINGFIELD, O., SUN
Jan. 2, 1928

LYNCHING RECORD

Editor, The Sun:

I SEND you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precaution taken. In 18

Wichita Ks Star
1-13-28

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE ALA.—Dear Sir:—I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precaution taken. In 18

17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924, and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, 8 of these were in northern states, and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed forced was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 whites and 53 Negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentuck, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

R. R. MOTON.
Principal, Tuskegee Institute.

CALHOUN, KY., NEWS
Friday, Jan. 20, 1928

FEWER LYNCHINGS

According to the annual report of the Tuskegee Institute, there were only 16 persons lynched in the United States during 1927. While this is the lowest number recorded in any year since records have been kept, except 1924 which showed the same number, it is 16 too many.

Still, when compared with the terrible record of 35 years ago, this report should give encouragement to all who are striving to remove the blot of lynch law from American civilization. To show briefly how lynching has decreased, a few figures will be of interest.

Lynching reached its most frightful height in 1892, when 255 persons were murdered by mobs. Of this number 100 were white and 155 colored. There were 115 lynched in 1900, 74 in 1910, 61 in 1920, 64 in 1921, 57 in 1922, 33 in 1923, 16 in 1924, 17 in 1925, 30 in 1926 and 16 in 1927.

During 1927 officers of the law protected 42 persons from mobs and in numerous other cases prisoners were removed to other jails as a precautionary measure. The record of law officers in this respect has shown much improvement in recent years. It is chifly to the courage and determination to sheriffs and other officers that the lessening of the lynching evil is due

Cooleemee, N. C., Journal

Cooleemee, N. C., Journal
JAN 5 1928

LYNCHINGS FOR 1927

We received the following from the principal of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute:

Concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

Okanogan, Wash., Independent
JANUARY 14, 1928

LYNCHINGS NOT SO POPULAR IN 1927

Lynchings in the United States for the past year as compiled by Tuskagee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, show: There were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, one less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 35 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

Yazewell Va Dem Rep
1-18-28

REPORT OF LYNCHINGS FOR THE PAST YEAR

Concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Dept. of Records and Research, there were 16 persons lynched in 1927.

This is 14 less that the number, 30 for 1926, 1 less for the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924, and 17 less than the number 333 for 1923; 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies were burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented the lynchings; 8 of these were in the Northern States and 34 in Southern States.

In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 5 3negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

Spencer, N. C., News

JAN 6 1928

LYNCHING NOW SAID TO BE DECREASING

Dear Sir:—

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guads augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: murder 7, attempted murder 2, rape 2, attempted rape 3, improper conduct 1, charge not reported 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas 3, Kentucky 1, Louisiana 1, Mississippi 7, Missouri 1, Tennessee 2, Texas 1.

Yours very truly,

R. R. Moton, Principal.

BLAIR, NEB., ENTERPRISE
JANUARY 12, 1928

REASE IN LYNCHINGS FOR 1927

Some interesting figures concerning lynchings for the past year have been compiled by the Tuskegee Institute of Tuskegee, Alabama in the department of Records and Research that show that lynchings in the United States are on the decrees.

In 1927 there were 16 persons lynched. This is 14 less than the number for 1926 and 1 less than for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were—murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

UNION
SPRINGFIELD, MASS.

JAN 21 1928

[illegible] Against Lynching.

From the Philadelphia Bulletin.

Gov. Byrd of Virginia has recommended to the Legislature a stringent law against lynching; he would make it a specific state offense, to be prosecuted by the Attorney General or other prosecutors designated by the Governor in addition to the local authorities. The county or city in which a lynching occurs is required to pay $2500 to the heirs of the person lynched.

This bill aims to overcome local sympathy with the crime or unwillingness to prosecute friends and neighbors for it. By hitting the pocket nerve of the taxpayers it tends to create sentiment against mob outrage. The measure carries out the purpose of the Dyer Federal antilynching bill.

Virginia has a good record as to lynchings; not a single one, for instance, of the 16 reported last year took place within its borders. There was a decrease last year of 14 throughout the nation, as compared with the previous year, which is good as far as it goes. But public opinion demands that this disgrace to the American name be altogether wiped out.

Guntersville, Ala., Advertiser

JAN 1 01928

LYNCHINGS FEWER IN 1927 ALABAMA HAS NONE D[illegible] ING YEAR

Lynchings [illegible] 1927 were fewer than in 1[illegible]6 and Alabama had none at all, according to a compilation of records by Tuskegee Institute. There were 16 in the country last year

Particularly gratifying to Alabama citizens should be the record this state made during the year. Lynchings are nothing less than mass out lawry and riot. They have no justification and are a blot on the name of any community.

In 1926 there were 30 lynchings in the United States, 14 more than there were in 1927. The same record, 16, was made in 1924.

There should be none at all and until this record can be announced there will not be much about which to boast in the situation. Alabama has that distinction for 1927 and should be proud of it. A determined effort to prevent lynchings would mean the record could be kept clean for future years. There are only a few cases where proper precautions would not prevent lynchings. That is one form of crime which can be guarded against for it is usually known when there is danger of an attempt to lynch. Where accused persons are already in the hands of officers there is seldom any real reason that they should be lynched. Sufficient precaution would prevent any attack. Outside of jails there is some excuse but inside there is little for permitting a mob to take a prisoner.

There were 42 cases in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, 34 of them in Southern states. This is the side of the record of which to be proud.

When attempts to lynch no longer occur the ideal situation will have been attained, but human nature makes it probable that no year in the near future will pass without

effort by some incensed group to take matters into its own hands.—Gadsden Times.

LaFayette, Ga., Messenger

JAN 6 1928

NO LYNCHINGS IN GEORGIA IN 1927 16 IN COUNTRY

Tuskeegee, Ala., Dec. 31.—Sixteen persons, all negroes, were lynched during 1927, it was announced today by Tuskeegee institute on the basis of records compiled by its department of records and research. This compared with 30 in the previous year, 17 in 1925, 16 in 1924 and 33 in 1923.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each were listed as follows:

Mississippi, 7.
Arkansas, 3.
Tennessee, 2.
Kentucky, 1.
Missouri, 1.
Texas, 1.

Four of the victims were burned to death, the report said, and the bodies of two were burned after they had been put to death. Offenses with which they were charged included murder, assault, attempted assault and improper conduct.

The report said that of those lynched, six were taken from jails and six seized from officers of the law outside jails. It added that there were 42 instances in which officers prevented lynchings, 34 in southern states and eight in northern states.

DICKSON, TENN., HERALD
JANUARY 13, 1928

FEWER LYN[illegible]

According to the annual report of the Tuskegee Institute, there were only 16 persons lynched in the United States during 1927. While this is the lowest number recorded in any year since records have been kept, except 1924 which showed the same number, it is 16 too many.

Still, when compared with the terrible record of 35 years ago, this report should give encouragement to all who are striving to remove the blot of lynch law from American civilization. To show briefly how lynching has decreased, a few figures will be of interest.

Lynching reached its most frightful height in 1892, when 255 persons were murdered by mobs. Of this number 100 were white and 155 were colored. There were 115 lynched in 1900, 74 in 1910, 61 in 1920, 64 in 1921, 57 in 1922, 33 in 1923, 16 in 1924, 17 in 1925, 30 in 1926 and 16 in 1927.

During 1927 officers of the law protected 42 persons from mobs and in numerous other cases prisoners were removed to other jails as a precautionary measure. The record of law officers in this respect has shown much improvement in recent years It is chiefly to the courage and determination of sheriffs and other officers that the lessening of the lynching evil is due.

HOME [illegible]ALE PA CITIZEN wkly
TUESDAY, JANUARY 17, 1928.

16 PERSONS WERE LYNCHED IN SOUTH DURING YEAR 1927

According to the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were forty-two instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern states and thirty-four in Southern states. In twenty-four of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In eighteen other instances armed force was used to repel the would-be-lynchers. Sixty-eight persons fifteen white and fifty-three negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas 1.

Lynchings - 1927
Reports on, sent Press.

Jan. - Dec.

2596

GREENVILLE (S. C.) NEWS
January 2, 1928

16 Negroes Lynched During Past Annum

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 1.—(AP)—Sixteen persons, all negroes, were lynched during 1927, it was announced today by Tuskegee institute, on the basis of record compiled by its department of research and records. This compared with 30 in the previous year, 17 in 1925, 16 in 1924 and 33 in 1923.

Four of the victims were burned to death, the report said, and the bodies of two were burned after they had been put to death. Offenses with which they were charged included murder, assault, attempt assault and improper conduct.

The report said that of those lynched, six were taken from jails and six seized from officers of the law outside jails. It added that there were 42 instances in which officers prevented lynchings, 34 in southern states and eight in northern states.

TROY (NY) TIMES
January 10, 1928

Fewer Lynchings in 1927.

Editor of The Troy Times:

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the last year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, one less than the 17 for 1825, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings: Eight of these were in Northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guard augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were —murder, seven; attempted murder, two; rape, two; attempted rape, three; improper conduct, one; charge not reported, one.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, three; Kentucky, one; Louisiana, one; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, one; Tennessee, two; Texas, 1.

Yours very truly,
R. R. MOTON,
Principal, Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute.

PRESS
Ventura, Cal.
JAN 21 1928

ERASING A NATIONAL DISGRACE

Gradually but surely, America is wiping away the stain that for many years blotted its good record as a law abiding nation. During 1927 there was only one lynching for twelve that occurred in 1892. That is to say, such is the ratio. Last year mob vengeance was effective in twenty-one cases. In 1892 the total of lynchings was 255. The banner year for absence of the mob spirit was 1924, when lynchings totalled sixteen.

The most notable improvement in this particular has been in the Southern States, where not so many years ago lynchings and burnings were of common occurence. A campaign of education for respect for the law has been not without good results. Public sentiment now is very generally opposed to the abandonment of legal processes for the punishment of capital crimes.

The few exceptions that now are listed in the crime records of the country probably are explained by the aggravating nature of the offenses. But even in such instances the people are learning to restrain their passions in favor of orderly disposition of criminals.

May there not be hope that the time is not far distant when this relic of barbarism will be wholly eradicated.

MERIDIAN (MISSISSIPPI) STAR
January 1, 1928

STATE LEADS IN LYNCHINGS

Tuskegee, Ala., Dec. 31.—Sixteen persons, all negroes, were lynched during 1927, it was announced Saturday by Tuskegee Institute on the basis of records compiled by its department of records and research.

This compared with thirty in the previous year, 17 in 1927, 16 in 1924, and 33 in 1923.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each were listed as follows:

Mississippi 7; Arkansas 3; Tennessee 2; Kentucky 1; Louisiana 1; Missouri 1; Texas 1.

Four of the victims were burned to death, the report said, and the bodies of two were burned after they had been put to death.

Offenses with which they were charged included murder, assault, attempted assault and improper conduct.

The report said that of those lynched, six were taken from jails and six seized from officers of the law outside jails.

It added that there were 42 instances in which officers prevented lynchings, 34 in southern states and 8 in northern states.

Commerce, Ga., News

JAN 12 1928

Not a lynching in Georgia during 1927. Which leads us to hope that those who would commit the crime that brings lynching have decided that it were better that they desist.—Oglethorpe Echo.

JACKSONVILLE (ILL.) COURIER
January 21, 1928

most any part of ... and acts along common-sense lines.

FEWER LYNCHINGS IN 1927

According to the annual report of the Tuskegee Institute, there were only sixteen persons lynched in the United States during 1927. While this is the lowest number recorded in any year since records have been kept, except 1924, which showed the same number, it is sixteen too many.

Still, when compared with the terrible record of thirty-five years ago, this report should give encouragement to all who are striving to remove the blot of lynch law from American civilization. To show briefly how lynching has decreased, a few figures will be of interest.

Lynching reached its most frightful height in 1822, when 255 persons were murdered by mobs. Of this number 100 were white and 155 colored. There were 115 lynched in 1900, 74 in 1910, 61 in 1920, 64 in 1921, 57 in 1922, 33 in 1923, 16 in 1924, 17 in 1925, 30 in 1926 and 16 in 1927.

During 1927 officers of the law protected forty-two persons from mobs and in numerous other cases prisoners were removed to other jails as a precautionary measure. The record of the law officers in this respect has shown much improvement in recent years. It is chiefly to the courage and determination of sheriffs and other officers that the lessening of the lynching evil is due.

Record Herald
Waynesboro Pa
JAN 4 1928

FEWER LYNCHINGS

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Lynching reached its most frightful height in 1892, when 255 persons were murdered by mobs. Of this number 100 were white and 155 colored. There were 115 lynched in 1900, 74 in 1910, 61 in 1920, 64 in 1921, 57 in 1922, 33 in 1923, 16 in 1924, 17 in 1925, 30 in 1926 and 16 in 1927.

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FRANKLIN, IND. REPUBLICAN
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18, 1928

FEWER LYNCHINGS

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Lynching reached its most frightful height in 1892, when 255 persons were murdered by mobs. Of this number 100 were white and 155 colored. There were 115 lynched in 1900, 74 in 1910, 61 in 1920, 64 in 1921, 57 in 1922, 33 in 1923, 16 in 1924, 17 in 1925, 30 in 1926 and 16 in 1927.

During 1927 officers of the law protected 42 persons from mobs and in numerous other cases prisoners were removed to other jails as a precautionary measure. The record of law officers in this respect has shown much improvement in recent years. It is chiefly to the courage and determination of sheriffs and other officers that the lessening of the lynching evil is due.

Ludowici, Ga., News

JAN 1 31928

Sixteen Persons Lynched In U. S. During 1927.

According to statistics just made public by the Department of Records and Research of Tuskegee Institute, there were 16 persons lynched in the United States during 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death. Two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augumented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 whites and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were—murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape 2; attempted rapes, 3; improyer conduct 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

The franchise is exclusive to this extent. If any other company applies for permission to operate on streets other than those used by the Waycross Transit Company, the company then has a thirty-day option in which to elect whether or not it will take over these streets.

The company is given permission to operate bus lines to other cities. If it does this a terminal must be established for freight and passengers. The city receives 3 per cent. each year of the gross earnings of each branch line. The right to operate branch lines is not exclusive. The company is required to put up two bonds, one for performance of the contract and one an indemnity bond. If at any time the company fails to maintain a daily schedule of six trips on at least two lines the franchise will be forfeited. Mr. Highsmith states that he expects within the next four months to have several city bus lines in operation, first attention to be given those serving the various schools.

ATLANTA (GEORGIA) CONSTITUTION
January 2. 1928

GEORGIA OFF THE "BLACK LIST"

The department of records and research of Tuskegee institute has completed its annual survey as to lynchings in the United States during 1927. The record is most commendable in showing a steady decrease, and is illustrating the vigilance of officers in preventing mob violence. It is particularly gratifying to Georgia, for not one lynching occurred in this state from January 1, 1927, to this new year day—a record that it was hoped would be reached in 1926, but which was not made due to a lynching in the last half of the year.

At any rate while several of the other southern states have made unenviable records, especially Mississippi, whose lead in 1927 is most deplorable and regrettable, Georgia has at last been eliminated from the "black list," and it is hoped it has attained a position in this manner which it will always maintain.

In the entire country there were only 16 lynchings in 1927, which is 14 less than the number for 1926. Twelve of the victims were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of the jails.

The survey shows that there were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynching. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed, or the guards augmented, or other precautions taken. In 18 other cases armed forces were used to repel the mobs.

The states in which lynchings occurred, and the number in each state, are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

It is noticeable that, along with Georgia, there were no 1927 lynchings in either of the Carolinas or in Florida, or Alabama. That is, the south Atlantic seaboard states, or the southeast proper, made a record in 1927 so commendable in this respect that it is deserving of comment and general national knowledge. It illustrates that in this great section of the country there is developing a stronger feeling for the supremacy of law and order, and for the integrity of constituted authority. The press crusades against floggings, and other evidences of mob violence, and the courage of enforcement and court officials, along with a stronger public sentiment against mob violence, have been contributing factors toward this improved situation

At this time leaders of public affairs in Mississippi are endeavoring to remedy the disgraceful mob-violence situation in that state, and it is hoped with success ahead of them.

There is no place for the mob any more than for the anarchist or the communist who conspires to tear down organized and legalized government. It is a hopeful sign that the lynching situation in the southeast was greatly improved in the year that has just closed.

Watkinsville, Ga. Enterprise

JAN 1 31928

Tuskegee Institute makes the following report on the number of lynchings for the past year:

There were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than for 1926, 1 less than for 1925, the same number as for 1924, and 17 less than for 1923. Of the persons lynched, 12 were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four were burned to death, two put to death and then their bodies were

None of these lynchings occurred in Georgia during 1927.

CHARLOTTE (N. C.) NEWS
January 2. 1928

LYNCH LAW ON DECLINE

United States Sets New Low Record—Mississippi Leads.

Tuskegee, Ala., Jan. 2.—(INS)—The United States established a new low record for lynching in the year just closed.

A special report issued here by Tuskegee Institute records sixteen lynchings during the year—one less than the previous low record of 1925.

All the 1927 victims were negroes. Twelve were taken from the hands of the law by violence. Lynchings in 1926 numbered 30.

Officers of the law prevented lynchings in 42 instances, the report stated. Eight of these instances were in Northern States and 34 in the South.

The number of lynchings by States:

Mississippi, E; Arkansas, 3; Tennessee, 2; Kentucky, La., Missouri and Texas, 1 each.

During 1927 officers of the law protected 42 persons from mobs and in numerous other cases prisoners were removed to other jails as a precautionary measure.

The record of law officers in this respect has shown much improvement in recent years. It is chiefly to the courage and determination of sheriffs and other officers that the lessening of the lynching evil is due.

FULLERTON, CAL., TRIBUNE
JANUARY 16, 1928

FEWER LYNCHINGS

According to the annual report of the Tuskegee Institute, there were only 16 persons lynched in the United States during 1927. While this is the lowest number recorded in any year since records have been kept, except 1924 which showed the same number, it is 16 too many.

Still, when compared with the terrible record of 35 years ago, this report should give encouragement to all who are striving to remove the blot of lynch law from American civilization. To show briefly how lynching has decreased, a few figures will be of interest.

Lynching reached its most frightful height in 1892, when 255 persons were murdered by mobs. Of this number 100 were white and 155 colored. There were 115 lynched in 1900, 74 in 1910, 61 in 1920, 64 in 1921, 57 in 1922, 38 in 1923, 16 in 1924, 17 in 1925, 30 in 1926 and 16 in 1927.

MULDROW OK SUN
JANUARY 13, 1928

LYNCHING RECORDS

16 persons were lynched during 1927, according to statistics compiled by Tuskegee Institute of Tuskegee, Alabama.

30 for 1926; 1 less than the number 17 for 1927, the same number, 16, as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails, 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings; 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other

Lynchings - 1927
Reports on, Sent Press

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WAYNESBORO PA RECORD HERALD
SATURDAY, JANUARY 14 1928

FEWER LYNCHINGS

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During 1927 officers of the law protected 42 persons from mobs and in numerous other cases prisoners were removed to other jails as a precautionary measure. The record of law officers in this respect has shown much improvement in recent years. It is chiefly to the courage and determination of sheriffs and other officers that the lessening of the lynching evil is due.

Jessup, Ga., Sentinel

JAN 12 1928

Sixteen Persons Lynched In U. S.

According to statistics just made public by the Department of Records and Research of Tuskegee Institute, there were 16 persons lynched in the United States during 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death. Two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augumented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 whites and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were—murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape 2; attempted rapes, 3; improyer conduct 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

HOUSTON, TEX., INFORMER
JANUARY 14, 1928

Tuskegee's Report Lists 16 Lynchings During Last Year

Tuskegee, Ala., Dec. 31, 1927.—Editor Houston Informer:

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve persons lynched were taken from the hands of the the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings: 8 of these being in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers: 68 persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes being thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were—murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

Yours very truly,
R. R. MOTON

MANCHESTER, TENN., TIMES
Friday, Jan. 20, 1928

Lynching Record For Year 1927

The following concerning lynchings for the past year is compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research.

There were 16 person lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926 1 less than the number 1 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923.

12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the prisoners were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, 3 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guerds augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were—murder 7; attempted murder, 2; rape 2 attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynching occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

VINCHESTER, TENN., TRUTH-HERALD
JANUARY 12, 1928

Record of Lynching In Year 1926

The following concerning lynchings for the past year is compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. There were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were—murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

FT. STOCKTON TEX. PIONEER
JANUARY 13, 1928

FEWER LYNCHINGS

According to the annual report of the Tuskegee Institute, there were only 16 persons lynched in the United States during 1927. While this is the lowest number recorded in any year since the records have been kept, except 1924, which showed the same number, it is 16 too many.

Still, when compared with the terrible record of 35 years ago, this report should give encouragement to all who are striving to remove the blot of lynch law from American civilization. To show briefly how lynching has decreased, a few figures will be of interest.

Lynching reached its most frightful height in 1892, when 255 persons were murdered by mobs. Of this number 100 were white and 155 colored. There were 115 lynched in 1900, 74 in 1910, 61 in 1920, 64 in 1921, 57 in 1922, 33 in 1923, 16 in 1924, 17 in 1925, 30 in 1926 and 16 in 1927.

During 1927 officers of the law protected 42 persons from mobs and in numerous other cases prisoners were removed to other jails as a precautionary measure. The record of law officers in this respect has shown much improvement in recent years. It is chiefly to the courage and determination of sheriffs and other officials that the lessening of the lynching evil is due.

BRADY, TEX., STANDARD
JANUARY 13, 1928

LYNCHINGS DECREASED IN 1927

A survey made by an association in New York shows a decrease in the number of lynchings in 1927 as compared with the previous year. In 1926 there were 34 lynchings in the United States; in 1927 only 21.

Seven of the persons were lynched in Mississippi, in 1927, the report shows; three in Tennessee, three in Arkansas, two in Florida, one on the Kentucky - Virginia border, and one each in Louisiana, Missouri, North Carolina, Texas and California. All but two of the victims were negroes.

Alpharetta Ga
Press

JAN 13 1928

FEWER LYNCHINGS

According to the annual report of the Tuskegee Institute, there were only 16 persons lynched in the United States during 1927. While this is the lowest number recorded in any year since records have been kept, except in 1924 which showed the same number, it is 16 too many.

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During 1927 officers of the law protected 42 persons from mobs and in numerous other cases prisoners were removed to other jails as a precautionary measure. The record of law officers in this respect has shown much improvement in recent years. It is chiefly to the courage and determination of sheriffs and other officers that the lessening of the lynching evil is due.

YOUNGSTOWN, O., VINDICATOR
Jan. 1, 1928

Letters from The People

FEWER LYNCHINGS IN 1927

Tuskegee Institute, Alabama,
Dec. 31, 1927.

Editor of The Vindicator, Sir:

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number for 1926, 1 less than the number for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number for 1923. Twelve of the persons were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were—murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

Yours very truly,
ROBERT R. MOTON,
Principal.

were taken from the hands of law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were—murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

Yours very truly,
ROBERT R. MOTON,
Principal.

PENSACOLA (FLA) JOURNAL
JAN 1928

16 LYNCHINGS IN SOUTH LAST YEAR

Arkansas Leads With Three Deaths at Mobs' Hands

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 6.—Sixteen persons were lynched in seven southern states during 1927, the annual survey by Tuskegee Normal and Industrial institute (negro) here shows. This contrasts with 30 such deaths during 1926. Seventeen lynchings were reported in 1925, sixteen for 1924 and 33 for 1923.

Twelve of the persons lynched this year were taken from the hands of the law, six from prisons and six from officers outside prison. Four were burned to death and two were killed and their bodies burned.

The Tuskegee report shows 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: murder 7; attempted murder 2; assault 2; attempted assault 3; improper conduct 1, charge not reported 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2, and Texas 1.

THE 1927 LYNCHING RECORD

Editor Beacon Jounal:

We are glad to send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee institute in the department of records and research. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, one less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings; eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negoes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses were: murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Akansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

R. R. MOTON,
Principal, Tuskogee Normal and Industrial Institute,

UPPER SANDUSKY (O.) UNION
Dec. 31, 1927

Sixteen Persons Lynched, Records Show For Year

Sixteen persons were lynched in the United States in 1927. This is 14 less than the unusually large number of 1926 when the record stood at 30. It is one less than for 1925 and the same number as in 1924, according to the report just made public by the Researcs department of Tuskegee Institute.

One of the good things in the report is that 42 instances of attempted lynchings were prevented by officers of the law standing firm, eight in Northern states, 34 in Southern states.

In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were—murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

WICHITA KS. Star
JANUARY 13, 1928

LYNHING RECORD FOR 1927

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE ALA.—Dear Sir:—I send you the concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 and good fortunes of 1927 should be of great use to all in making our lives and the lives of those with whom we come in contact a greater blessing to humanity in 1928. The making of good resolutions is a splendid thing, but of greater importance is the will to keep them. Looking back over 1927 we should be better able to shape and amend our resolutions for 1928.

ST. LOUIS, MO., UNION NEWS
JANUARY 13, 1928

Sixteen persons were lynched in the United States in 1927, according to the Departments of Records and Research of Tuskegee Institute.

DALLAS, TEX., DISPATCH
JANUARY 13, 1928

Sixteen persons were lynched in the United States in 1927, according to the Department of Records and Research of Tuskegee Institute.

Lynchings-1927
Reports on, Sent Press.

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FLORENCE (S. C.) REVIEW
January 6. 1928

LYNCHINGS IN 1927

That there were no lynchings in South Carolina in 1927 is a matter of gratification to those who hold the law in respect. Discussing the report sent out from Tuskegee Institute which keeps a record of lynchings north and south, The State newspaper says:

"Among the satisfactions a South Carolinian may allow himself, in reviewing the year 1927, far from least is that not one of the 16 lynchings that were committed occurred within his state. May the next year be kept likewise unblackened!

"Officers of the law prevented lynchings in 42 instances during 1927, 34 such instances being in Southern states. Armed force was used in 24 of these cases. Mob action was averted in others by effective and timely precautions, as by removal of prisoners or the augmenting of guards. This phase of the year's record in respect of lynching undoubtedly reflects an improvement in the attitude of responsible peace officers toward their obligations, while such attitude is itself conditional appreciably by corresponding improvement in public opinion within their jurisdictions.

"Interracial relations in South Carolina manifestly grow better and happily nothing is at this time apparent which seems likely to impede progressive betterment. Organized good-will has its functions in this field, but a ground of encouragement is that so far in this state improvement has been rather a product of individual goodwill. Workable mutual adjustment between the races in any locality must after all be for the most part merely the sum of kindliness, respect, forbearance, as felt and practiced by individual members of the community in their daily living."

SATURDAY, JANUARY 14, 1928.

FEWER LYNCHINGS

According to the annual report of the Tuskegee Institute, there were only 16 persons lynched in the United States during 1927. While this is the lowest number recorded in any year since records have been kept, except 1924 which showed the same number, it is 16 too many.

Still, when compared with the terrible record of 35 years ago, this report should give encouragement to all who are striving to remove the blot of lynch law from American civilization. To show briefly how lynching has decreased, a few figures will be of interest.

Lynching reached its most frightful height in 1892, when 255 persons were murdered by mobs. Of this number 100 were white and 155 colored. There were 115 lynched in 1900, 74 in 1910, 61 in 1920, 64 in 1921, 57 in 1922, 33 in 1923, 16 in 1924, 17 in 1925, 30 in 1926 and 16 in 1927.

During 1927 officers of the law protected 42 persons from mobs and in numerous other cases prisoners were removed to other jails as a precautionary measure. The record of law officers in this respect has shown much improvement in recent years. It is chiefly to the courage and determination of sheriffs and other officers that the lessening of the lynching evil is due.

WATERTOWN (NY) STANDARD
January 9, 1928

LYNCHINGS DECREASE

Mob rule replaced orderly processes of the law in punishment of crime in only 16 instances in the United States during 1927, according to records of lynchings compiled by the Tuskegee Institute. This was 14 fewer cases than in the preceding year but only one less than in 1925 and on a parity with 1924.

Demonstrations which attained volume enough to be classed as attempted lynchings numbered 42, but vigilance and courage of officers of the law repelled many mobs and saved the lives of 15 white and 53 negro prisoners.

Mississippi had the blackest record among the states, seven lynchings taking place within her borders. Arkansas mobs prevailed three times, and in Tennessee twice, while one lynching is marked up against Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas.

It is almost superfluous to state, shameful as the admission is, that all of the victims were negroes.

PORT ARTHUR, TEX., NEWS
JANUARY 15, 1928

Lynchings On the Decrease And The Stake Has Disappeared

There were 34 lynchings in the United States in the year 1926; there were 16 in 1927. Mississippi led with 7. Lynching was a popular sport in Mississippi. Mobs lynched three in Tennessee and Arkansas, 2 in Florida and one each on the Kentucky-Virginia border, Louisiana, Missouri, North Carolina, Texas and California.

All but two of the victims were negros. It appears that the ancient and refined custom of stake burnings has been relegated to the dismal field of oblivion. There was a time under southern skies when the stake was as popular as the rope. Civilization is on its way.

Florence Morning Herald
JANUARY 14, 1928

FEWER LYNCHINGS

According to the annual report of the Tuskegee Institute, there were only 16 persons lynched in the United States during 1927. While this is the lowest number recorded in any year since records have been kept, except 1924 which showed the same number, it is 16 too many.

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During 1927 officers of the law protected 42 persons from mobs and in numerous other cases prisoners were removed to other jails as a precautionary measure. The record of law officers in this respect has shown much improvement in recent years. It is chiefly to the courage and determination fo sheriffs and other officers that the lessening of the lynching evil is due.

Seattle (Wash.) Enterprise
January 6, 1928

A Big Improvement

Statistics compiled by Tuskegee Institute show a big improvement in the lynching record of the United States for the present year. There were sixteen persons, all Negroes, murdered by mobs during 1927. This is fourteen less than the record for 1926 and equals that of 1924, the best previous year. Twelve were taken from the hands of the law. Four were burned to death, and two were killed and then burned.

All these outrages were perpetrated in the Southern States. Mississippi had seven, Arkansas three, Tennes-

...ee two, and Texas, Louisiana, Kentucky and Missouri each one. Due to the recent anti-lynch laws and more civilized public sentiment in these parts, officers of the law prevented forty-two mob murders either by removal of the prisoner or armed resistence. The lives of sixty-eight persons, fifteen whites and fifty-three Negroes, were thus saved.

In spite of this considerable improvement, lynching is still a national disgrace. It would be a disgrace if only one life were taken by a cowardly, blood-thirsty mob. The fact that, even this year, six were burned and fifty-eight efforts were made to cheat the law shows how savage the mob spirit is and how often it can be invoked. The hopeful phase of the situation is that this kind of horror is decreasing, since recent sentiment is compelling officers of the law to resist mobs resolutely, where before there was much tacit approval of "lettin' 'em burn the nigger."

Some day civilization will progress to the point where, even in the most benighted of places, every member of a mob will be duly caught and tried either for murder or attempted murder. Some day the crime of lynching will be universally regarded as a curious relic of barbarism, as the once respectable ordeal-by-fire is now regarded.

SWANTON, O. ENTERPRISE
Jan. 19, 1928

FEWER LYNCHINGS

According to the annual report of the Tuskegee Institute, there were only 16 persons lynched in the United States during 1927. While this is the lowest number recorded in any year since records have been kept except 1924 which showed the same number, it is 16 too many.

Still when compared with the terrible record of 35 years ago, this report should give encouragement to all who are striving to remove the blot of lynch law from American civilization. To show briefly how lynching has decreased a few figures will be of interest.

Lynching reached its most frightful height in 1892, when 255 persons were murdered by mobs. Of this number 100 were white and 155 were colored. There were 115 lynched in 1900; 74 in 1910, 61 in 1920, 64 in 1921, 57 in 1922, 33 in 1923, 16 in 1924, 17 in 1925, 30 in 1926 and 16 in 1927.

During 1927 officers of the law protected 42 persons from mobs and in numerous other cases prisoners were removed to other jails as a precautionary measure. The record of law officers in this respect has shown much improvement in recent years. It is chiefly to the courage and determination of sheriffs and other officers that the lessening of the lynching

SAN RAFAEL, CALIF.
INDEPENDENT
JANUARY 14, 1928

FEWER LYNCHINGS

90

ACCORDING to the annual report of the Tuskegee Institute, there were only 16 persons lynched in the United States during 1927. While this is the lowest number recorded in any year since records have been kept, except 1924 which showed the same number, it is 16 too many.

Still, when compared with the terrible record of thirty-five years ago, this report should give encouragement to all who are striving to remove the blot of lynch law from American civilization. To show briefly how lynching has decreased, a few figures will be of interest.

Lynching reached its most frightful height in 1892, when 255 persons were murdered by mobs. Of this number 100 were white and 155 colored. There were 115 lynched in 1900, 74 in 1910, 61 in 1920, 64 in 1921, 57 in 1922, 33 in 1923, 16 in 1924, 17 in 1925, 30 in 1926 and 16 in 1927.

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NOWATA, OK., STAR
JANUARY 15, 1928

FEWER LYNCHINGS.

According to the annual report of the Tuskegee Institute, there were only 16 persons lynched in the United States during 1927. While this is the lowest number recorded in any year since records have been kept, except 1924 which showed the same number, it is 16 too many.

Still, when compared with the terrible record of 35 years ago, this report should give encouragement to all who are striving to remove the blot of lynch law from American civilization. To show briefly how lynching has decreased, a few figures will be of interest.

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CULVER, IND. CITIZEN
Wednesday, Jan. 4, 1928

FEWER LYNCHINGS

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During 1927 officers of the law protected 42 persons from mobs and in numerous other cases prisoners were removed to other jails as a precautionary measure. The record of law officers in this respect has shown much improvement in recent years. It is chiefly to the courage and determination of sheriffs and

other officers that the lessening of the lynching evil is due.

VICKSBURG (MISS.) HERALD
January 1, 1928

MISSISSIPPI LED LYNCHING IN '27

Tuskegee, Ala., Dec. 31—(AP)—Sixteen persons, all negroes, were lynched during 1927, it was announced today by Tuskegee Institute on the basis of records compiled by its department of records and research. This compared with 30 in the previous year, 17 in 1925, 16 in 1924 and 33 in 1923.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each were listed as follows:

Mississippi 7, Arkansas 3, Tennessee 2, Kentucky 1, Louisiana 1, Missouri 1, Texas 1.

Four of the victims were burned to death, the report said and the bodies of two were burned after they had been put to death. Offenses with which they were charged included murder, assault, attempted assault and improper conduct.

The report said that of those lynched, six were taken from jails and six seized from officers of the law outside jails. It added that there were 42 instances in which officers prevented lynchings, 34 in southern states and eight in northern states.

Lynchings-1927
Reports on, Sent Press.

2599 Jan - Dec.

2599

Columbia, Tenn., Democrat

JAN 12 1928

FEWER LYNCHINGS SHOWN IN 1927

Tuskegee Institute Compiles Data On Nation-Wide Hangings; All Persons Lynched Were Negroes

Tuskegee Institute, Alabama,
December 31, 1927.

I am sending you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hand of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 o fthese cases the prisoners were removed or guards augmented of other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 51 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape 2; attempted rape, 3* improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi 7. Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas 1.

WAYLAND (N.Y.) REGISTER
January 19, 1928

FEWER LYNCHINGS

According to the annual report of the Tuskegee Institute, there were only sixteen persons lynched in the United States during 1927. While this is the lowest number recorded in any year since records have been kept, except 1924 which showed the same number, it is sixteen too many.

Still, when compared with the terrible record of thirty-five years ago, this report should give encouragement to all who are striving to remove the blot of lynch law from American civilization. To show briefly how lynching has decreased, a few figures will be of interest.

Lynching reached its most frightful height in 1892, when 255 persons were murdered by mobs. Of this number 100 were white and 155 colored. There were 115 lynched in 1900, seventy-four in 1910, sixty-one in 1920, sixty-four in 1921, fifty-seven in 1922, thirty-three in 1923, sixteen in 1924, seventeen in 1925, thirty in 1926, and sixteen in 1927.

During 1927 officers of the law protected forty-two persons from mobs and in numerous other cases prisoners were removed to other jails as a precautionary measure. The record of law officers in this respect has shown much improvement in recent years. It is chiefly to the courage and determination of sheriffs and other officers that the lessening of the lynching evil is due.

Crandon, Wis., Republican.
THURSDAY, JANUARY 12, 1928

NUMBER OF LYNCHINGS IN THE YEAR OF 1927

The following concerning lynchings for the past yedr as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research.

There were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

Perryville Mo Rep
JANUARY 5, 1928

LYNCHINGS IN U. S. DECREASE IN 1927

The following statistics concerning lynchings for the last year were compiled by Tuskegee Institute of Alabama. There were 16 persons lynched in 1927, 14 less than the 30 for 1926, 1 less than the 17 for 1925, the same number 16 for 1924 and 17 less than the 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, while two of them were put to death and their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

JANETT ALA. TIMES (wk)
JANUARY 11, 1928

Sixteen Persons Were Lynched in 1927

There were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 7; attempted murder 2; rape 2; attempted rape 3; improper conduct 11; charge not reported 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas 3; Kentucky 1; Louisiona 1; Mississippi 7; Missouri 1; Tennessee 2; Texas 1.

COLUMBIA TENN. DEMOCRAT (wk)
JANUARY 12, 1928

FEWER LYNCHINGS SHOWN IN 1927

Tuskegee Institute Compiles Data On Nation-Wide Hangings; All Persons Lynched Were Negroes

Tuskegee Institute, Alabama,
December 31, 1927.

I am sending you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hand of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 o fthese cases the prisoners were removed or guards augmented of other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 51 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape 2; attempted rape, 3* improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi 7. Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas 1.

WHITESBURG, KY EAGLE
Thursday, Jan. 19, 1928

LYNCHINGS DECREASE DURING PAST YEAR

Statistics compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research, show that only 16 persons were lynched during the year 1927, a decrease of 14 from the number of 30 in 1926. The report shows that the number of lynchings were one less than the 17 for 1925, the same number of 15 for 1924, and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officrs of the law oustide of jails. Four of the number were burned to death, which the officers prevent the bodies then burnd.

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The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas

WASHINGTON PA REPORTER
TUESDAY, JANUARY 17, 192[illegible]

FEWER LYNCHINGS.

According to the annual report of the Tuskegee Institute, there were only 16 persons lynched in the United States during 1927. While this is the lowest number recorded in any year since records have been kept, except 1924 which showed the same number, it is 16 too many.

Still, when compared with the terrible record of 35 years ago, this report should give encouragement to all who are striving to remove the blot of lynch law from American civilization. To show briefly now lynching has decreased, a few figures will be of interest.

Lynching reached its most frightful height in 1892, when 255 persons were murdered by mobs. Of this number 100 were white and 155 colored. There were 115 lynched in 1900, 74 in 1910, 61 in 1920, 64 in 1921, 57 in 1922, 33 in 1923, 16 in 1924, 17 in 1925, 30 in 1926 and 16 in 1927.

During 1927 officers of the law protected 42 persons from mobs and in numerous other cases prisoners were removed to other jails as a precautionary measure. The record of law officers in this respect has shown much improvement in recent years. It is chiefly to the courage and determination of sheriffs and other officers that the lessening of the lynching evil is due.

EWING, KY., INQUIRER
JANUARY 13, 1928

Fewer Lynchings

According to the annual report of the Tuskegee Institute, there were only 16 persons lynched in the United States during 1927. While this is the lowest number recorded in any year since records have been kept, except 1924 which showed the same number, it is 16 too many.

Still, when compared with the terrible record of 35 years ago, this report should give encouragement to all who are striving to remove the blot of American civilization. To show briefly has lynching has decreased, a few figures will be of interest.

Lynching reached its most frightful height in 1892 when 255 persons were murdered by mobs. Of this number 100 were white and 155 colored. There were 115 lynched in 1900, 74 in 1910, 61 in 1920, 64 in 1921, 57 in 1922, 33 in 1923, 16 in 1924, 17 in 1925, 30 in 1926 and 16 in 1927.

During 1927 officers of the law protected 42 persons from mobs and in numerous other cases prisoners were removed to other jails as precautionary measure. The record of law officers in this respect has shown much improvement in recent years.
It is chiefly to the courage and determination of sheriffs and other officers that the lessening of the lynching evil is due.

CHICAGO ILL AX
SATURDAY, JANUARY 14, 1928

ONLY TWO LYNCHED FOR THE "USUAL CRIME" IN 1927

Tuskegee, Ala., Jan. 11 (PNS)—According to the condensed report concerning lynchings for 1927 as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. In 1926 the report showed that a total of 30 persons were lynched, and in 1925 there were 17 persons lynched, 16 in 1924, and 33 in 1923.

The mob took 12 persons from the hands of the law—six of them from jails and six from officers of the law outside of the jails. Four of the victims were burned to death and two were brutally put to death and their bodies burned on a funeral pyre.

Officers Prevent 42 Lynchings

The smallness of the number of persons lynched does not indicate that there is a widespread standard of high respect for allowing justice to take it course among the general run of citizens, but the number of instances where officers effectively upheld the law and preserved order indicates a hopeful sign toward finally blotting out this unspeakable disgrace on American civilization.

The report shows that there were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed, or the guard augmented or other precautions taken to prevent an outburst of hoodlumism. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. By this means 68 persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

In 1927 the mob vented itself by lynching only Negroes. The offenses charged were as follows: Murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; "The Usual Crime," 2; attempted "Usual Crime," 3; improper conduct, 1; and charge not reported, 1.

Mississippi Leads With 7

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state follows: Mississippi, 7; Arkansas, 3, Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Missouri, 1. It is noted that none of the northern states was cursed with a lynching bee in 1927.

COLO. SPGS., COL., PUBLIC OPINION
JANUARY 14, 1928

As the Worker Sees His World

Summary and Digest of Important Events of the Week Here and Abroad

The whole case manufactured against Mexico by William Randolph Hearst on the basis of documents published in his newspapers collapsed on January 4 when handwriting experts employed by Hearst told a special Senate committee investigating the documents that they were "spurious."

Sixteen persons were lynched in the United States in 1927, according to the Department of Records and Research of Tuskegee Institute.

The killing of six marines and wounding of more than a score in two battles with Nicaraguans stirred a heated attack in Congress January 4 on the policy of the United States in Nicaragua and Latin America; in the Senate Senator Heflin introduced a resolution asking the recall of American forces and in the House Representative Huddleston and others denounced the action of the United States in Nicaragua.

Clarence Darrow, the noted criminal lawyer, took luncheon with the New York Rotary Club December 2 and in a speech denounced our penal systems and appealed for enlightened treatmena of criminals.

Stevedores at the port of Corinto in Nicaragua went on strike January 3 for higher wages.

In a letter sent to an official of the Ku Klux Klan on December 29, Gov. Smith of New York assailed the hooded organization but declared it should be treated with even-handed justice.

Twenty thousand wood pulp workers in Sweden were locked out January 2 when they refused to accept a reduction in wages.

The General Council of British Trades Union Congress and the Labor party is reported to have begun a joint inquiry into the whole question of a living wage, with the idea of making a demand for a living wage one of the planks in the Labor party's platform at the election expected this year.

Hickman KY Courier
JANUARY 12, 1928

LYNCHING FALLS OFF

There were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, w from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were —murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynching occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

Lynchings 1927
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan. - Dec. 9600

Maysville, Ky. Independent
Saturday, Dec. 31, 1927

LYNCHINGS FALL OFF DURING 192

Sixteen Meet Violent Deaths F Crimes Committed In Past Year Decrease of Fourteen over Pre ious Year and the Smallest Nur ber In Many Years.

Birmingham, Ala., December 3 —Statistics compiled by Tuskeg Institute in the Department of Re ords and Research show that on sixteen persons were lynched du ing the year -927, a decrease fourteen from the number 30 f 1926. The report shows that t number of lynchings were one le than the 17 for 1925, the sam number 16 for 1924 and 17 le than the number 33 for 192 Twelve of the persons lfnched wer taken from the hands of the law six from jails and six from officer of the law outside of jails. Fou of the numer were burned to deat while two were put to death an then their bodies burned.

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All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were —murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improp er conduct, 1; charge not reported 1.

The states in which lynchings oc curred and the number in eac state are as follows: Arkansas, 3 Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississ ippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2 Texas, 1.

Walla Walla (Wn) Union
January 3, 1928

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Alabama, Jan. 2 1928.

Dear Sir:

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number, 30, for 1926, one less than the number, 17, for 1925 the same number, 16, as for 1924 and 17 less than the number, 33, for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

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All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were—murder, 7; attempted murder 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee 2; Texas, 1.

Yours very truly,
R. R. Moton
Principal

CHATTANOOGA, TENN., TIMES, JANUARY 8 1928

OUR LYNCHING RECORD.

Sixteen persons, all negroes, were lynched in this country last year, according to statistics compiled by the department of records and research, of Tuskegee institute. The states in which the crimes were committed and the number listed in each were as follows: Mississippi, 7; Arkansas, 3; Tennessee, 2; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1. The offenses with which the victims were charged included murder, assault, attempted assault and improper conduct. Death was inflicted on some by shooting, and on others by hanging, while four were burned alive.

This record, which is a national disgrace and an international scandal, shows that, for all our vaunted superiority in the matter of self-government, there are in the United States a considerable number of men who are far from being qualified for the responsibilities of self-government—men who, under the provocation of crime aggravated by race prejudice, succumb to the spirit of the mob and proceed to override the authority of the state and deprive fellow-beings of their lives, sometimes in the most barbarous manner.

There is, however, reason to believe that the number of such individuals is steadily growing smaller. The sixteen lynchings in 1927 represented considerable improvement over 1926, when there were 30. The record was lower than that of 1925, with 17 deaths at the hands of mobs, and equaled that of 1924, the previous low year. It was a tremendous improvement over 1917, with its 38 lynchings; a still greater one over 1908, with its 100 victims of mob violence. Going back still further, it is seen that the country has indeed traveled a long way on the road to a lynchless era, for in 1901 there were 135 lynchings, in 1893, 200, and in 1892, 255.

This improvement has come about through the growth of public sentiment against mob violence and through greater effort on the part of some officers of the law to keep prisoners from falling into the hands of mobs. Last year, for instance, forty-two lynchings were prevented by officers who had the intelligence to outwit lawless gangs or the courage to withstand them. Nevertheless, six of the sixteen individuals lynched last year were taken from jails and six others from officers outside jails, and responsibility for the lynching of these twelve persons undoubtedly rests in some measure, if not wholly in some instances, upon the officers who quailed, forgot their sworn duty, and gave way in the presence of the mobs demanding their charges.

In its efforts to stamp out mob executions, the country has need of more sheriffs, deputies and jailers, who have the courage and the ability to remain in control of the situation when the mob spirit is running riot. It also has need of some serious effort on the part of law-enforcement authorities to bring lynchers into court and punish them for their crimes against their victims and their states. And few states have greater need for these things than Tennessee, for it was disgraced by two mob executions in 1927, and not a single lyncher was so much as indicted.

JACKSON (MISS.) LEARION-LEDGER
January 1, 1928

committee report.

SIXTEEN LYNCHED DURING PAST YEAR

Tuskegee Institute Make Annual Report, Showing All Victims Negroes

TUSKEGEE Ala., Dec. 31—(AP)—Sixteen persons, all negroes, were lynched during 1927, it was announced today by Tuskegee Institute on the basis of records compiled by its department of records and research.

This compared with thirty in the previous year, 17 in 1925, 16 in 1924 and 33 in 1923.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each were listed as follows:

Mississippi 7; Arkansas 3; Tennessee 2; Kentucky 1; Louisiana 1; Missouri 1; Texas 1.

Four of the victims were burned to death, the report said and the bodies of two were burned after they had been put to death.

Offenses with which they were charged included murder, assault, attempted assault and improper conduct.

The report said that of those lynched, six were taken from jail and six seized from officers of the law outside jails.

It added that there were 42 instances in which officers prevented lynchings, 34 in southern states and eight in northern states.

OKMULGEE OK TIMES
JANUARY 8, 1928

MOBS LYNCHED 16 NEGROES IN 1927

Officers of Law Prevent Lynching in 42 Other Instances

The number of lynchings in the United States was reduced almost 50 percent least year, according to figures compiled by Tuskegee institute, negro school in Alabama.

Sixteen persons were lynched. All were negroes. In 1926, the number lynched was 30, but in 1925 only 17 were thus summarily killed.

68 Are Saved

Twelve of these 16 were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from arresting officers. Four of the 16 were burned to death; two were put to death and their bodies burned, according to the institute's figures.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented attempted lynchings from being successful, the institute records. Thirty-four of these were in the south. Sixty-eight persons, 53 of them negores, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs, according to the report.

Mississippi Leads

The offenses for which these 16 were lynched were: Murder 7, attempted murder 2, rape 2, improper conduct 1, charge not reported 1.

The states in which the lynchings occurred are: Arkansas 3, Kentucky 1, Louisiana 1, Mississippi 7, Missouri 1, Tennessee 2, and Texas 1.

Livingston (Mont.) Enterprise
December 29, 1927

LYNCHINGS OVER PAST YEAR SHOW GREAT DECREASE

R. R. Morton, Principal of the Tuskegee Negro [illegible] founded [illegible] Washington, [illegible] writing on the records [illegible] 1927, declares there were [illegible] lynchings. This he says [illegible] ber. 31, [illegible]

...ber, 1927, and 17 less than the number, 33, for 1923.

The balance of Moton's report follows:

"Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death and two were put to death and then their bodies were burned.

"There were forty-two instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in the northern states and thirty-four in the southern states. In twenty-four of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented, or other precautions taken. In eighteen other instances, armed forces were used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, fifteen white and fifty-three negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of a mob.

"All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 3; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct 1; charge not reported, 1.

"The states in which the lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1."

Brooklyn N. Y. Eagle

JAN 1 1928

LYNCHING TOLL 16 IN 1927, NEGRO SAYS

Figures Show Drop of 14 Over 1926—Mississippi Has Seven.

There were 14 less lynchings in 1927 than in 1926, according to figures compiled by Robert R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute for the training of colored young men and women.

In 1926 lynchings numbered 30. During the year just concluded they numbered 16, or one less than in 1925, the same as in 1924 and 17 less than in 1923, according to Principal Moton.

Of the total in 1927. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned, Mr. Moton explains.

"There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern States and 34 in Southern States. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

"All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, seven; rape, two; attempted rape, three; improper conduct, one, and charge not reported, one.

"The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas, three; Kentucky, one; Louisiana, one; Mississippi, seven; Missouri, one; Tennessee, two, and Texas, one.

South Bend Ind. News-Times
Monday, Jan. 2, 1928

New Low Record is Set In 1927 for Lynchings

By International News Service:

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 1.—The United States established a new low record for lynchings in the year just closed.

A special report issued Saturday night by the Tuskegee institute records 16 lynchings during the year—one less than the previous low record of 1925.

All the 1927 victims were Negroes. Twelve were taken from the hands of the law by violence.

Lynchings in 1926 numbered 30.

Officers of the law prevented lynchings in 42 instances, the report added. Eight of these instances were in northern states and 34 in the southern.

The number of lynchings by states: Mississippi seven; Arkansas three; Tennessee two; Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas one each.

BIRMINGHAM (ALA) NEWS
January 1, 1928

16 Lynchings In 1927 Equal Low Record Of 1924

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Dec. 31.—(AP)—Sixteen persons, all negroes, were lynched during 1927, it was announced Saturday by Tuskegee Institute on the basis of records compiled by its department of records and research. This compared with 30 in the previous year, 17 in 1924, and 33 in 1923.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each were listed as follows: Mississippi, 7; Arkansas, 3; Tennessee, 2; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

Four of the victims were burned to death, the report said, and the bodies of two were burned after they had been put to death. Offenses with which they were charged included murder, assault, attempted assault and improper conduct.

The report said that of those lynched, six were taken from jails and six seized from officers of the law outside jails. It added that there were 42 instances in which officers prevented lynchings, 34 in Southern states and 8 in Northern states.

BROOKLYN N. Y. EAGLE
JANUARY 1, 1928

LYNCHING TOLL 16 IN 1927, NEGRO SAYS

Figures Show Drop of 14 Over 1926—Mississippi Has Seven.

There were 14 less lynchings in 1927 than in 1926, according to figures compiled by Robert R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute for the training of colored young men and women.

In 1926 lynchings numbered 30. During the year just concluded they numbered 16, or one less than in 1925, the same as in 1924 and 17 less than in 1923, according to Principal Moton.

Of the total in 1927. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned, Mr. Moton explains.

"There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern States and 34 in Southern States. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

"All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, seven; rape, two; attempted rape, three; improper conduct, one, and charge not reported, one.

"The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas, three; Kentucky, one; Louisiana, one; Mississippi, seven; Missouri, one; Tennessee, two, and Texas, one.

Canandaigua Messenger
Saturday, January 14, 1928

WER LYNCHINGS

...ording to the annual report ...f the Tuskegee Institute, there were ... persons lynched in the United States during 1927. While this is the lowest number recorded in any year since records have been kept, except 1924 which showed the same number, it is 16 too many.

Still, when compared with the terrible record of 30 years ago, this report should give encouragement to all who are striving to remove the blot of lynch law from American civilization. To show briefly how lynching has decreased, a few

...figures ... interest.

Lynching reached its most frightful height in 1892, when 255 persons were murdered by mobs. Of this number 100 were white and 155 colored. There were 115 lynched in 1900, 74 in 1910, 61 in 1920, 64 in 1921, 57 in 1922, 33 in 1923, 16 in 1924, 17 in 1925, 30 in 1926 and 16 in 1927.

During 1927 officers of the law protected 42 persons from mobs and in numerous other cases prisoners were removed to other jails as a precautionary measure. The record of law officers in this respect has shown much improvement in recent years. It is chiefly to the courage and determination of sheriffs and other officers that the lessening of the lynching evil is due.

New Bedford Mass. Times

DEC 31 1927

Letters to the People

LYNCHING STATISTICS

Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute
Office of the Principal
Tuskegee, Alabama
December 31, 1927

Editor of the New Bedford Times,
Dear Sir:

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

Yours very truly,
R. R. MOTON,
Principal.

Greensboro N C
JAN 2 1928

16 NEGROES WERE LYNCHED IN 1927

Tuskegee Report Shows That in 42 Instances Officers Prevented Lynchings.

Tuskegee, Ala., Jan. 1.—(AP)—Sixteen persons, all negroes, were lynched during 1927, it was announced today by Tuskegee institute on the basis of records compiled by its department of research and records. This compared with 30 in the previous year, 17 in 1925, 16 in 1924 and 33 in 1923.

Four of the victims were burned to death, the report said, and the bodies of two were burned after they had been put to death. Offenses with which they were charged included murder, assault, attempted assault and improper conduct.

The report said that of those lynched, six were taken from jails and six seized from officers of the law outside jails. It added that there were 42 instances in which officers prevented lynchings, 34 in southern states and eight in northern states.

Durham N C Herald
JAN 1 1928

...GROES ARE
...D IN COUNTRY

..., Ala., Dec. 31.—(AP)—...sons, all Negroes, were ...ring 1927 it was announc... by Tuskegee Institute on ... of records compiled by its ...ment of research and records. ...h , compared with 30 in the previous year, 17 in 1925, 16 in 1924 and 33 in 1923.

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Lynchings-1927
Reports on, Sent Press.

2601 Jan-Dec.

2601

Miss
Middletown Conn
JAN 2 1928

COLLEGE COMPILES LYNCHING RECORDS

16 Persons Meet Death at Hands of Irate Mobs During Year, 30 Previous Year.

TUSKEGEE, Ala. Jan. 2—The following is the record concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research. It is found there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 for 1924 and 17 less than the number, 33, for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four persons were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, 8 of these in Northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white, and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. Offenses charged were murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

This compared with 30 in the previous year, 17 in 1925, 16 in 1924 and 33 in 1923.

Four of the victims were burned to death, the report said, and the bodies of two were burned after they had been put to death. Offenses with which they were charged included murder, assault, attempt assault and improper conduct.

The report said that of those lynched, six were taken from jails and six seized from officers of the law outside jails. It added that there were 42 instances in which officers prevented lynchings, 34 in southern states and eight in northern states.

Journal
Staunton Salem nc
DEC 31 1927

16 Lynchings Since Jan. 1

North Carolina, However, Continues With a Clean Record

Sixteen persons were lynched in the United States this year, according to records compiled by the Department of Records and Research of Tuskegee Institute, a copy of which was received by The Journal yesterday. No lynchings occurred in North Carolina during the year.

The number of lynchings, the report says, is 14 less than the number 30, for 1926, 1 less than the number 17, for 1925; the same number, 16, for 1924, and 17 less than the number, 33, for 1923.

The report shows that in 42 instances officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern States and 34 in southern States. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; criminal assault, 2; attempted criminal assault, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1; Mississippi, 7.

Greenville S Car
JAN 2-1928

wood cemetery.

16 Negroes Lynched During Past Annum

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 1.—(AP)—Sixteen persons, all negroes, were lynched during 1927, it was announced today by Tuskegee institute, on the basis of record compiled by its department of research and records.

Bulletin
Norwich Conn
JAN 3 1928

The Lynching Record.

Mr. Editor: I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee institute in the department of records and research. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number, 30, for 1926, 1 less than the number, 17, for 1925, the same number, 16, as for 1924, and 17 less than the number, 33, for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas 1.

Yours very truly,
R. R. MOTON, Principal.
Tuskegee, Ala., Dec. 31, 1927.

News
Roanoke, Va.
JAN 3-1928

THE LYNCHING RECORD.

The Tuskegee Institute record credits the Pound Gap lynching to Kentucky, thus giving Virginia a clean slate for the year 1927. It was a narrow escape, for from all accounts that affair took place very close to the State line. Probably people from both States participated. The Isle of Wight affair remains our chief blot. There was no lynching, but because a sheriff and a Commonwealth's attorney did their duty in protecting a prisoner from mob violence, a rump convention nominated independent candidates against them, and prevented their re-election. Such conduct on the part of the voters is not an encouragement to the officers of the law to do their duty.

North Carolina again experienced a year in which law and order triumphed. Since the Needleman affair, and the conviction of the ring leaders of the mob that stormed the Asheville jail, attacks on the law have not been so popular in that State. From North Carolina's experience it is apparent that the way to break up mob violence is to put the leaders of the mob in the penitentiary. Neither Virginia nor Kentucky has taken any such steps as a result of the Pound Gap affair.

Lynchings occurred during 1927 in only six States. There were only sixteen lynchings, compared with thirty in 1926, an encouraging decline that shows that this form of savagery can be eradicated entirely. Where the people have confidence in their courts, and where justice is swift and sure, there is not a single argument in favor of lynching. In all cases there is the argument against it that it is an attack on the law itself, and that it is usually accompanied by brutal exhibitions of barbarity which disgust decent people and entirely disprove the claim of the lynchers that they are punishing crime.

Of the sixteen victims of lynching during 1927, twelve were taken from the hands of officers of the law, six of them from jails and six from officers on their way to jail. All would have been promptly dealt with by the courts. Four were burned and the others either hanged or shot.

In the Southern States credit is given by the Tuskegee records for preventing thirty-four lynchings, while in Northern States, officers are shown to have halted eight attempts at mob violence. Fifteen of those thus saved were white.

Mississippi leads the list in 1927 with seven lynchings. Arkansas showed three, Tennessee two, and Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas one each.

INDIANAPOLIS IND NEWS
Monday, Jan. 16, 1928

ASKS ANTI-LYNCHING LAWS

Governor Byrd (Va.) Urges Support of Military Institute.

RICHMOND, Va., January 16 (A.P.)—Drastic laws against lynching were recommended to the general assembly of Virginia today by Governor Harry Flood Byrd.

"I recommend that the crime of lynching be declared by law a specific state offense to be prosecuted by the attorney-general or other prosecutors designated by the Governor in addition to local authorities," he said. "Also that a county or city where the lynching occurs be required to pay $2,500 to the lawful distributees of the person lynched, and that the Governor be authorized to spend such sums as he deems necessary in apprehending the guilty members of the mob."

The Governor also announced his opposition to the proposal to withdraw state support to Virginia Military Institute. He spoke of great service the institute had rendered, the state, but said "brutal hazing must be stopped and no repetition of the student strike will be tolerated."

MTN. GROVE MO. JOURNAL
JANUARY 5, 1928

LYNCHINGS FOR 1927.

The Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute gathered the following statistics on lynchings for the year 1927:

"There were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, and the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

"There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

"All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were:

murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

"The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1."

FRANKLIN [illegible] STAR
Thursday, J[illegible], 1928

FEWER LYNCHINGS

According to the annual report the Tuskegee Institute, there ere only 16 persons lynched in the nited States during 1927. While is is the lowest number recorded any year since records have been ept, except 1924 which showed the me number, it is 16 too many.

Still, when compared with the rrible record of 35 years ago, this eport should give encouragement all who are striving to remove the lot of lynch law from American ivilization. To show briefly how nching has decreased, a few figures ill be of interest.

Lynching reached its most frightful height in 1892, when 255 persons were murdered by mobs. Of this number 100 were white and 155 colored. There were 115 lynched in 1900, 74 in 1910, 61 in 1920, 64 in 1921, 57 in 1922, 33 in 1923, 16 in 1924, 17 in 1925, 30 in 1926 and 16 in 1927.

During 1927 officers of the law protected 42 persons from mobs and in numerous other cases prisoners were removed to other jails as a precautionary measure. The record of law officers in this respect has shown much improvement in recent years. It is chiefly to the courage and determination of sheriffs and other officers that the lessening of the lynching evil is due.

Missouri and Texas each one.

Evidently society is making a little progress in the matter of taking the law out of the Government's hands, although the numerous instances of mismanagement of the law in the regularly constituted hands are provocative of lawlessness.

Sac City, Ia., Sun
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1927

A communication from the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, of which Robert R. Moton is principal, furnishes interesting facts concerning the lynchings that have occurred during the year 1927. Principal Moton finds that only sixteen persons were lynched during the past year, fourteen fewer than the number for 1926, one fewer than the number for 1925, the same as for 1924, and seventeen fewer than for 1923. On the whole this indicates an improvement. Perhaps more significant than the reduced number is the large number of instances in which the officers of the law prevented lynching. There were forty-two cases of this kind reported, eight of them in northern states and thirty-four in southern states. No less than sixty-eight persons, fifteen white persons and fifty-three negroes, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs. There still remains a tendency to visit wrath upon negro offenders. All of the sixteen who were lynched were negroes and all of the lynchings occurred in former slave states, namely: Arkansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Tennessee, and Texas.

of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were —murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentuky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

Yours very truly,
ROBT. R. MOTON,
Principal.

DICKSON, TENN., HERALD
Friday, Jan. 13, 1928

FEWER LYNCHINGS

According to the annual report of the Tuskegee Institute, there were only 16 persons lynched in the United States during 1927. While this is the lowest number recorded in any year since records have been kept, except 1924 which showed the same number, it is 16 too many.

Still, when compared with the terrible record of 35 years ago, this report should give encouragement to all who are striving to remove the blot of lynch law from American civilization. To show briefly how lynching has decreased, a few figures will be of interest.

Lynching reached its most frightful height in 1892, when 255 persons were murdered by mobs. Of this number 100 were white and 155 were colored. There were 115 lynched in 1900, 74 in 1910, 61 in 1920, 64 in 1921, 57 in 1922, 33 in 1923, 16 in 1924, 17 in 1925, 30 in 1926 and 16 in 1927.

During 1927 officers of the law protected 42 persons from mobs and in numerous other cases prisoners were removed to other jails as a precautionary measure. The record of law officers in this respect has shown much improvement in recent years. It is chiefly to the courage and determination of sheriffs and other officers that the lessening of the lynching evil is due.

GALLIPOLIS O TRIB
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 4, 1928.

LYNCHINGS IN AMERICA
DECREASE IN NUMBER

Annual Report of Tuskegee Institute Shows Only 16 Killed By Mobs

Sixteen persons were lynched by mobs in 1927, according to the report compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the department of Records and Research. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926. I less than the number 17 for 1923, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, and 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchsnig. 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners wer removed or the guards augmented o other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of the mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were —murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3, Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

HOUSTON, TEX, DISP
JANUARY 8, 1928

LYNCHING RECORD

Montgomery Advertiser.

DR. ROBERT R. MOTON, principal of Tuskegee institute, sends the press the annual report on lynchings as compiled by the department of records and research at Tuskegee.

Naturally in examining this report we hastened to see what the cold figures showed for Alabama. Happily, and not at all to our surprise, it is found that Alabama's record for the last twelve months is again clean. We had no lynching in this State in 1927. We have had none since 1925, we believe. And what is equally gratifying is that there were no lynchings in either of the Carolinas, nor in Georgia, nor in Virginia—all Southern States.

The record for the country is very much better than for 1926, though no better than for 1925.

It appears from the Tuskegee compilation that there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern States and 34 in Southern States. "In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken." In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs."

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were—murder 7, attempted murder 2, rape 4, attempted rape 3, improper conduct 1, charge not reported 1.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas 3, Kentucky 1, Louisiana 1, Mississippi 7, Missouri 1, Tennessee 2, Texas 1.

Augusta me Journal
JAN 3 1928

Gainesboro Tenn Argus
DEC 31 1927

THE LYNCHING RECORD

Of the 42 instances last year where officers of the law prevented lynchings, 34 of these were in the southern states, according to the report of Principal Moton of the Tuskegee Institute. This indicates improvement in the South's attitude toward lynching.

The past year 16 persons were lynched, of whom four were burned to death. In 18 instances armed forces prevented lynchings. All of the persons lynched were Negroes; for murder or attempted murder 9, rape or attempted rape 5, improper conduct one, and one for cause not learned. The states in which lynchings occurred were: Arkansas 3, Kentucky and Louisiana each one, Mississippi 7, Tennessee 2 and

The Year's Record On Lynchings

Tuskegee Institute,
Tuskee Institute, Alabama,
December 31, 1927.

Editor Argus,

Dear Sir:—I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. I find that there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands

Lynchings-1927
Reports on, Sent Press

Jan- Dec.

2602

Knoxville, Tenn., News-Sentinel
Tuesday, Jan. 3, 1928

16 LYNCHINGS DURING 1927

All In South; Tennessee Third Highest; Mississippi First.

Special To The News-Sentinel

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala., Jan. 3.—Progress in the prevention of mob lynchings appears in the report on lynchings for 1927 compiled by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute for colored people.

The sudden flare-up of the lynching spirit that resulted in 30 lynchings in 1926 settled back to 16 for 1927. This, however, is merely a return to the normal of several years before. In 1923 there were 17, in 1924, 16, and in 1925 there were 17.

Four of those seized by mobs during the past year were burned to death. Two were burned after they were put to death. Twelve were seized after they had been apprehended by officers of the law—six taken from jails and six from officers outside the jails.

Tennessee was third among states in the number of lynchings, having two to its discredit. Mississippi led with 7, Arkansas 3, Kentucky, Louisiana, Misouri and Texas one each.

42 Preventions

There ware 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 43 in southern states. In 24 cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. In this way 68 persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were saved from death at the hands of the mob.

All of those who were lynched were negroes. Offences with which they were charged were: Murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; assault, 2; attempted assault, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

Durango (Colo.) Democrat
January 1, 1928

14 LESS LYNCHINGS REPORTED IN 1927, SHOWN BY RECORDS

Tuskegee, Ala., Dec. 31.—Robert R. Morton, principal of the Tuskegee Normal & Industrial Institute for Negroes, which was founded by the late Booker T. Washington, gave out the following data, Saturday, relative to the number of lynchings throughout the United States in 1927 as compared with other years, as follows:

There were sixteen persons lynched in 1927. This is fourteen less than the number thirty for 1926; one less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were—murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

Aberdeen (Wn.) World
January 3, 1928

LYNCHINGS DROP SHARPLY IN YEAR

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 3.—Information issued through the school for colored, Tuskegee Normal and Industrial institute, founded by Booker T. Washington, for the year 1927, shows that 16 persons were lynched comparative with 30 during the previous 12 months. It is the smallest number since 1923, when 16 were also recorded. Twelve of the group this year were taken from the hands of the law, six being taken from ja[il]. There were 42 instances in which officers prevented lynchings. In 18 other instances armed forces were used to repel the mobs. Of the total 68 persons, 15 were whites and 53 negroes. All of those lynched were colored, with Mississippi leading in number. Arkansas and Tennessee were also the scene of several lynchings.

Lake City, S. C., News

JAN 5 1928

Lynchings Decrease Past Year.

The following concerning lynchings for the past year is given out by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. There were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

Carrollton, Ga. Times

JAN 5 1928

A GOLD STAR FOR GEORGIA—FOR 1927 RECORD

Dalton Citizen, Dec. 27, 1927)

"Unless something happens between now and the end of the present week, Georgia is going to enter the good year of 1928 without a lynching blemish.

"And isn't that something of which to be proud?

"We have had had within the state some very bad crimes, but thanks to the viligance of the courts and the officers of the law there has been no lynching violence.

"In our neighboring county of Murray a very astrocious crime was committed in the early part of the year but the people restrained themselves and the case is now being worked out in a legal orderly way.

"In various parts of the state some very serious crimes have been committed but at no time has the mob gained the ascendancy, and we feel that it will not be in the future if the courts are as vigilant as they should be. Speedy justice is the answer to the mob.

"Georgia with no lynching for a year sounds good to the law abiding elements of the state. It should be repeated again [illegible]."

Clarksville, Tenn., Chronicle

JAN 2 1928

SIXTEEN VICTIMS OF MOBS IN 1927

NUMBER FOURTEEN LESS THAN IN 1926, INSTITUTE FIGURES DISCLOSE.

A total of sixteen persons were lynched throughout the United States during the year 1927, according to a report by Robert R. Moton, principal of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute in Alabama. The figures were compiled in the department of records and research of the Tuskegee Institute.

This number is fourteen less than the number for 1926 and one less than the lynching victims of 1925. In 1924 there were sixteen and in 1923 there were thirty-three. Twelve of the persons lynched this year were taken from the hands of the law, six having been taken from the jails and six from officers outside of the jails. Four of these persons were burned to death and two were put to death and their bodies burned.

There were forty-two instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and thirty-four in southern states. In twenty-four of these cases the prisoners were removed, or the guard augmented, or other precaution taken. In eighteen of the other instances, armed forces were used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, fifteen white and fifty-three negroes, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, seven; attempted murder, two; rape, two; attempted rape, three; improper conduct, one; charge not reported, one.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas 3, Kentucky 1, Louisiana 1, Mississippi 7, Missouri 1, Tennessee 2 and Texas 1.

Ft. Smith Ark. Record
January 2, 1928

16 NEGROES LYNCHED IN 1927, REPORT SHOWS

Tuskegee, Ala., Jan. 2.—(AP)—Sixteen persons, all negroes, were lynched during 1927, it was announced by Tuskegee institute, on the basis of records compiled by its department of records and research. This compared with 30 in the previous year, 17 in 1925, 16 in 1924 and 33 in 1923.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each were listed as follows: Mississippi, 1; Arkansas, 3; Tennessee, 2; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

Four of the victims were burned to death, the report said, and the bodies of two were burned after they had been put to death. Offenses with which they were charged included murder, assault, attempted assault and improper conduct.

The report said that of those lynched, six were taken from jails and six seized from officers of the law outside jails. It added that there were 42 instances in which officers prevented lynchings, 34 in southern states and eight in northern states.

Camden, S. C., Chronicle

JAN 6 1928

LYNCHINGS DECREASE

No Lynching Occurred in South Carolina During Year Just Closed

Prof. Robert R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee School, sends The Chronicle the following concerning lynchings in the United States during the year just closed:

"I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

"There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in Northern states, and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

"All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were —murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1."

Hartsville, S. C., Messenger

JAN 5 1928

SIXTEEN LYNCHED DURING PAST YEAR

Tuskegee, Ala.—Sixteen persons, all Negroes, were lynched during during 1927, it was announced today by Tuskegee institute on the basis of records compiled by its department of research and records. This compared with 30 in the previous year, 17 in 1925, 16 in 1924 and 33 in 1923.

Four of the victims were burned to death, the report said, and the bodies of two were burned after they had been put to death. Offenses with which they charged included murder, assault, attempted assault and improper conduct.

The report said that of those lynched, six were taken from jails and six seized from officers of the law outside jails. It added that there were 42 instances in which officers prevented lynchings, 34 in Southern states and eight in Northern states.

FRANKLIN PA NEWS HERALD
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1927

16 PERSONS LYNCHED IN U. S. DURING YEAR

The annual statement has just been issued by Dr. Robert R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, the famous negro school of Alabama, touching the number of lynchings in the 12-months just closing.

There were 16 persons lynched in 1927 in the United States. This is 14 less than the 30 of 1926, one less than the 17 of 1925, the same number as for 1924 and 17 less than the 3 of 1923. Of the persons lynched, 12 were taken from the hands of the law. Four of the persons were burned to death and two were put to death and their bodies then burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, eight of them in Northern and 34 in Southern states. In 18 of the instances, armed force was employed to restrain the mob. Of the 68 saved from lynching, 15 were white and 53 negroes.

All of the 16 lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were—murder, seven; attempted murder, two; rape, two; attempted rape, three; improper conduct, one; charge not reported, one.

Arkansas had three lynchings; Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas each one; Mississippi, seven; Tennessee, two.

FROM Commercial

Bonyon Me

DEC 27

Washington, Dec. 22—(AP)—Lynching is on the decrease in the south. Robert R. Moton, principal of the Tuskegee Institute, told President Coolidge today during a call at the White House.

Russellville, Ala., Times

JAN 5 1928

ONLY 16 ARE MOB VICTIMS

STATE OF ALABAMA ESCAPES ANY LYNCHINGS FOR PAST YEAR

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Dec. 31.—Sixteen persons, all negroes, were lynched during 1927, it was announced today by Tuskegee Institute on the basis of records compiled by its department of records and research. This compared with 30 in the previous years, 17 in 1925, 16 in 1924 and 33 in 1923.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each were: Mississippi 7; Arkansas 3; Tennessee 2; Kentucky 1; Louisiana 1; Missouri 1; Texas 1.

Four of the victims were burned to death, the report said, and the bodies of two were burned after they had been put to death. Offenses with which they were charged included murder, assault, attempted assault and improper conduct.

The report said that there were 42 instances in which officers prevented lynching, 34 in Southern states and 8 in Northern states.

Bennettsville, S. C., Advocate

JAN 5 1928

SIXTEEN PERSONS LYNCHED IN 1927

FOURTEEN LESS THAN PRECEDING YEAR

All Lynched Were Negroes—Other Figures Compiled by Tuskegee Institute.

Tuskegee, Ala., Dec. 31.—The following concerning lynchings for the past year, has been compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. There were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were —murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana. 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

Bishopville, S. C., Messenger

JAN 5 1928

16 NEGROES LYNCHED DURING PAST YEAR

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Four of the victims were burned to death, the report said, and the bodies of two were burned after they had been put to death. Offenses with which they were charged included murder, assault, attempted assault and improper conduct.

The report said that of those lynched, six were taken from jails and six seized from officers of the law outside jails. It added that there were 42 instances in which officers prevented lynchings, 34 in Southern states and eight in Northern states.

There were no lynchings in South Carolina during 1927, although comparative figures for the preceeding year were not given.

Alma, Ga. Times

JAN 13 1928

Alma, Ga. Times

JAN 13 1928

16 Persons Lynched In 1927

There were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 from 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of the jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

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Lynchings- 1927
Reports on, sent Press.

Jan. — Dec.

2603

THE STORMOGUIDE

The weather forecast in the News-Democrat Stormoguide is: Cloudy and unsettled followed by much colder weather.

Tomorrow the sun will rise at 7:02 and set at 5:04 and the moon will set at midnight and the day's length will be 10 hours and 2 minutes.

Tomorrow we will have the first quarter of the moon and the last day of the year.

Tomorrow we will have the feast of St. Sylvester and New Year's Eve.

The rainfall as measured on the News-Democrat Rain Guage up to one o'clock was 20-100 of an inch.

Belleville (Ill.) News-Democrat

During the present year there were sixteen lynchings pulled off in the United States, and the victims of all of these outrages, were colored men. That fact alone condemns and stigmatizes the showing made. The worst crimes in America are not committed by black men and women, but by the white. The gangsters are all white men and so are the child murderers. This Hickman, who is the champion baby killer of the Pacific Coast, is a white man and Loeb and Leopold the Chicago kidnapers and thrill baby-killers are also white men. If lynchings were caused by the fiendishness and the atrocity of the crimes rather than by the complexion and color of the accused, there would have been a lynching in Los Angeles, last week, and Loeb and Leopold wouldn't be the cynosure of all eyes in the new state prison in Joliet, today. Both of them would have been strung up to a telegraph pole, or beneath a railroad trestle. Lynchings are never justified where the law functions, and where the sheriffs are not craven cowards, and the judges scalawags. The fact that nearly all of the people lynched are blacks, demonstrates that there is no justice in a lynching. With all of the gang murders that are committed in St. Louis from day to day and from week to week, there ought to be a lynching to every murder, if the aim of lynching were to put an end to crime. As it is, lynching is the biggest of all crimes. A large number of Negroes are lynched for the crime of rape, or attempted rape. All of these cases are open to grave suspicion. Most rape cases are preceded by flirtation, initiated by the victims themselves. The correct lynching reports in this country are made by Dr. Robert R. Moton who is the able and conscientious principal of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, founded by Booker T. Washington for the training of colored young men and women at Tuskegee Institute, Alabama. The motive is obvious, but pardonable, because somebody ought to do this distasteful and unpopular job. The object of Doctor Moton is that lynchings are not conducted in the interests of law and order. Negroes often get lynched for crimes for which white men in Belleville would get fined three dollars and the costs, by Judge Wagner, or the offenses would be condoned with no more drastic punishment that the infliction of a lecture by Chief Arbogast, or a frown and then a dismissal by the Mayor. Dr. Moton sent us one of his reports this morning. It makes interesting reading and is as follows:

"I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

"There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

"All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were—murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

"The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1."

Flapper Fanny calls her boy friend "Generality" because he embraces so much.

Canton, Ga., Advance JAN 6 1928

Isn't This Record Worth While?

Unless something happens between now and the end of the present week, Georgia is going to enter the good year 1928 without a lynching blemish.

And isn't that something of which to be proud?

We have had within the state some very bad crimes, but thanks to the vigilance of the courts and the officers of the law there has been no lynching violence.

In our neighboring county of Murray a very artocious crime was committed in the early part of the year, but the people restrained themselves, and the case is now being worked out in an orderly, legal way.

In various parts of the state some very serious crimes have been committed, but at no time has the mob gained the ascendancy and we feel that it will not in the future if the courts are as vigilant as they should be.

Speedy justice i sthe answer to the mob.

Georgia with no lynching for a year sounds good to the law-abiding elements of the state.

It should be repeated again and again.

—Dalton Citizen.

Grand Rapids Mich., Herald
Sunday, Jan. 8, 1928

68 MOBS THAT FAILED.

Sixteen Negroes were lynched in the United States last year, a record which, in itself, gives little occasion for American complacence. It is no better than other years in the immediate past, although as compared with 1892, when 255 persons were lynched in this country, and 1885, when the lynching of Negroes alone totaled 106, it reflects progressive regard for legal processes. There is, however, in the annual statistics from the Tuskegee institute a far brighter spot of promise than the record of these 16 unfortunates put to death by mob law. During 1927, according to the Tuskegee record, 42 lynching parties were balked by officers of the law and 26 by armed citizens defending the law. A year in which 68 mobs were successfully held at bay plainly has been blessed with a growing determination to prevent the cheating of the law. Granting that every one of the 16 Negroes lynched was guilty of capital crime, and that each eventually would have been legally executed, mob law is in no single case justified. The foundation of government and of ordered freedom rests upon respect for law and for legal processes. Mob law is chaos. When the agents of government and the citizenry itself stand firm against the violence of mob rule, as in 68 1927 episodes, there is fair reason for confidence in the republic.

instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

"All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were—murder, 1; attempted murder, 2; rape,2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

"The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1."

Waterbury Standard
Monday, January 9, 1928

LYNCHINGS DECREASE

Mob rule replaced orderly processes of the law in punishment of crime in only 16 instances in the United States during 1927, according to records of lynchings compiled by the Tuskegee Institute. This was 14 fewer cases than in the preceding year but only one less than in 1925, and on a parity with 1924.

Demonstrations which attained volume enough to be classed as attempted lynchings numbered 42, but vigilance and courage of officers of the law repelled many mobs and saved the lives of 15 white and 53 negro prisoners.

Mississippi had the blackest record among the states, seven lynchings taking place within her borders. Arkansas mobs prevailed three times, and in Tennessee twice, while one lynching is marked up against Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas.

It is almost superfluous to state, shameful as the admission is, that all of the victims were negroes.

an end to lynch law throughout the United States—education and the development of true public spirit. Talk of lynching young Hickman was heard in Los Angeles within the last few days and newspapers here and there even favored that method of disposing of him, but the disposition to abide by the law is strong in California, despite the Vigilance Committee record of seventy years ago, and official precautions were found to have been taken unnecessarily. In time the same spirit will prevail where mobs now rule. The firm attitude taken by governors of many Southern states has undoubtedly had its weight with the people, and the feeling that the law must take its proper course will spread gradually but surely, if the successors of the present governors shall maintain a similar stand.

Mississippi had seven lynchings last year, while Arkansas had three. All of these occurred in small and backward communities, but even this kind of a community can be reached by education and can be taught with what horror the rest of its state regards such crimes.

Orlando Fla. Sentinel
DEC 28 1927

LYNCHINGS IN THE SOUTH were fewer this year than last year, according to R. R. Moton, president of the Tuskegee Institute, although this year's figures are greater than three years ago. Mob rule should not be but we can hold out little hope for the fiend who butchered twelve year old Marian Parker. If he is caught and some one in the thousands hunting the "Fox" will catch him, the slayer might expect mercy but he will receive none. An eye for an eye and tooth for a tooth still holds good in some cases.

Metropolis Ill., Repub. Herald
Tuesday, Jan. 3, 1928

Lynchings in 1927 Less Than in Previous Year

According to statistics compiled by the Tuskegee, Alabama, Normal and Industrial institute in the department of records and research, there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the numb r 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 ess than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were tak- the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside jails, 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were ut to death and then their bodies burned.

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All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged murder 7, attempted murder 2, rape 2, attempted rape 3, improper conduct 1, charge not reported 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas 3 Kentucky 1, Louisiana 1, Mississippi 7, Missouri 1, Tennessee 2, and Texas 1.

Greenes Ind., Commercial
Thursday, Jan. 12, 1928

Lynchings.

Robert R. Moton, principal of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, Alabama, issues the following statistics on lynchings in 1927:

"I send you the following concerning lynchings for past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

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RENO, NEVADA GAZETTE
DECEMBER 28, 1927

LYNCHINGS ARE FEWER

AN IMPROVEMENT in the attitude of the country toward lynching would appear to be shown by a report furnished from Tuskogee Institute, the negro training school founded by the late Booker Washington. The institute makes a report on lynchings annually and sends its findings to the newspapers in every state. This year, the report shows, there were sixteen of them, which is fourteen less than in 1926. In forty-two other cases officers of the law prevented mob action, thirty-four of these instances of protecting colored prisoners occurring in the South.

It is education that ultimately will put

FT. WORTH TEX.
JANUARY 1, 1928

swered on New Years Eve last yea

16 NEGROES LYNCHED IN 1927, RECORDS SHOW

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Dec. 31.—Sixteen persons, all negroes, were lynched during 1927, it was announced Saturday by Tuskegee Institute on the basis of records compiled by its department of records and research. This compared with 30 in the previous year, 17 in 1925, 16 in 1924 and 33 in 1923.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number each were listed as follows:

Mississippi 7, Arkansas 3, Tennessee 2, Kentucky 1, Louisiana 1, Missouri 1, Texas 1. Four of the victims were burned to death, the report said, and the bodies of two were burned after they had been put to death.

DELAWARE O. GAZETTE
Dec. 22, 1927

FEWER LYNCHINGS

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22—There were fewer lynchings in the south this year than last, Dr. R. R. Moton, president of Tuskegee Institute, told President Coolidge today.

This year's figure, however, was greater than three years ago, Moton said.

Lynchings-1927
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan. — Dec.

2604

Columbus [illegible]
Jan. 2, 1928

SIXTEEN LYNCHINGS IN 1927.

Editor Ohio State Journal:

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute, in the department of records and research.

I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, one less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number, 16, as for 1924, and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses were: Murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1, Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

R. R. MOTON,
Principal Tuskegee Institute.
Tuskegee Institute, Ala., Dec. 28.

NASHVILLE, TENN. BANNER

JAN 1 1928

NEW LOW RECORD FOR LYNCHINGS

Tuskegee, Ala., Dec. 31.—(By International News Service.)—The United States established a new low record for lynchings in the year just closed.

A special report issued tonight by Tuskegee Institute records sixteen lynchings during the year—one less than the previous low record of 1925.

All the 1927 victims were Negroes. Twelve were taken from the hands of the law by violence.

Lynchings in 1926 numbered thirty.

Officers of the law prevented lynchings in forty-two instances, the report added. Eight of these instances were in Northern states and thirty-four in the South.

The number of lynchings by states: Mississippi, 7; Arkansas, 3; Tennessee, 2; Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas, 1 each.

MACON GA., Telegraph.

JAN 2 1928

We Did Come Through

Figures on lynching issued by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People do not jibe with those that come from Tuskegee Institute. The association says that 21 persons were mob victims during 1927, while Tuskegee gives the number as 16. It may be that the two agencies arrived at their totals upon different bases; that Tuskegee did not regard as lynching five crimes of violence in which persons lost their lives.

No matter what the difference is, neither agency was able to include Georgia among those states whose peoples had given themselves over to mob violence. Statistics do not run as far back as the days of General Oglethorpe, but it is perhaps true that 1927 was the first year since the early days of the Georgia colony when there was no mob violence. The achievement is all the more significant when it is considered that during the year there was at least one case that would have certainly, in other days, provoked a lynching. That was the case in Jasper county when a Negro assaulted a white woman. Not only were the few hoodlums who threatened violence promptly warned that to attempt it would mean trouble, but the feeling that emerged from that crime was one of friendliness for the responsible Negroes of the community and the desire to protect them from that blind racial ill-feeling that attends such crimes and lynchings.

Georgians may well have pride in the fact that there were no lynchings in their state. Aside from the fact that the achievement places us with those states that have become civilized, at least to that extent, it indicates that we have passed from under the brutalizing and degrading influences of irresponsible mobs. Because sentiment has switched so perceptibly, it is increasingly harder for a mob to get in its work. The attitude of responsible citizens is no longer one of passivity when a mob threatens; on any number of occasions recently, good citizens have offered their services to sheriffs who were doing their duty in protecting their prisoners. The sheriff who wants to preserve the life of his prisoner until the courts order it taken, always can do it by the exercise of force. It is growing easier for him to do it, because the public is supporting him.

Recently the editor of the Manufacturers' Record attempted to give an ingenious explanation, and perhaps defense, of lynching, by saying that mobs lynched because they wanted to spare white women victims the humiliation of going into court and subjecting themselves to scrutiny and to brutal examinations by defense attorneys. That explanation betrays an ignorance of mobs and an ignorance of court procedure in such cases. No mob thinks of such niceties as court trials in the heat of aroused passion; reasoning has no place with hoodlums. What makes them kill is the blood lust, the primeval passions rising and sweeping away everything else, government, orderly processes and everything else. Anyone who knows court procedure in aggravated assault cases knows, also, that no attorney would dare subject a victim to brutal cross examination. As a matter of fact, few victims ever go into a court room. Their evidence is taken either in private or by interrogatories. Mr. Edmonds was merely giving lynchers a basis of reasoning for doing that in which there is no reason, only passion.

PIONEER-PRESS
ST. PAUL, MINN.
JAN 2 1928

A HOPEFUL RECORD.

From Tuskegee Institute in Alabama, founded by Booker T. Washington for the training of colored young men and women, comes an encouraging New Year's announcement. The lynching of Negroes in the Southern states continues to be a foul blot on the fair name of America, but less and less does this crime stand as a reproach. There were 16 persons, all Negroes, lynched in the United States in 1927, and seven of these occurred in a single state, Mississippi.

By itself, that is a record shameful enough. But mob violence has been declining over a period of years, and the comparatively low number of lynchings in 1927 represents a resumption of respect for lawful processes which seem to have been interrupted in 1926. There were 33 lynchings in 1923; 16 in 1924; 17 in 1925; 30 in 1926, and now again 16 in 1927. The blackest year for which there are records was 1892, when 255 whites and Negroes were lynched. Since 1903, when the number was 135, there has been a fairly consistent progress towards complete eradication of mob murder. In 1927, there were fewer lynchings than in any other year since the Civil War except 1924, when there were also 16.

The picture, however, is not complete as it stands. It has a brighter side. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, but the authorities were not all derelict in their duty. Officers of the law prevented lynchings in 42 cases, 8 in Northern states and 34 in Southern. In 18 of these instances, armed force was used to repel would-be lynchers, and in 24 the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In all, 68 persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

It is a hopeful sign when officers in authority are shown to be firm in their determination to protect the rights of their prisoners against the inflamed passions of men before whom it would in many cases be far easier to yield than to stand ground. The connivance of authorities with mobs has been one of the notorious and shameful incidents of lynchings in the past.

The Northern states have had their own disgraces, and it ill becomes them to adopt an attitude of self-righteous condemnation toward the people of the South because this evil there runs more rampant. But the fact remains that the greater number of these crimes by far is committed in the South. Every lynching of 1927 was in the South—Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

This is a problem which belongs peculiarly to the decent and law-abiding citizens of the Southern states. Nothing will suffice for its eradication except the growth of a popular conscience which cries out against such brutalism and places authority in the hands of men who will stamp it out. Nothing could attest more surely to the emergence of that New South which is now on so many tongues as the final and complete disappearance of the mob and its barbaric orgies in this country where law is supreme.

Eagle Reading Pa.
DEC 27 1927

LYNCHING ON WANE

Washington, Dec. 22 (AP).—Lynching is on the decrease in the South, Robert R. Moton, principal of the Tuskegee Institute, told President Coolidge today during a call at the White House.

WALHART TEX. TEXAN
DECEMBER 30, 1927

TUSKEGEE INSTI. REPORTS SIXTEEN LYNCHINGS IN 1927

The department of records and research of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute for Negroes reports that there were 16 lynchings in the United States in 1927.

This is 14 less than the number for 1926, one less than the number for 1925, the same number as for 1924 and 17 less than the number for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were —murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

Dublin, Ga., Courier-Herald
JAN 6 1928

No Lynching Credited To Georgia In The Year 1927

Lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

Seattle, Wash., Post Intelligencer
DECEMBER 23, 192[illegible]

Lynchings Decrease In U. S. During Year

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—(By Universal Service)—Fewer lynchings occurred in the United States this year than last, President Coolidge was informed today by Rr. R. R. Moton, president of Tuskegee Institute, Ala. The number of lynchings in 1927, however, was greater than three years ago, Doctor Moton said.

Livingston (Mont.) Enterprise
December 29, 1927

LYNCHINGS OVER PAST YEAR SHOW GREAT DECREASE

R. R. Moton, Principal of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, founded for Negroes by Booker T. Washington, at Tuskegee, Alabama, writing on the record of lynchings for 1927, declares there were sixteen persons lynched during the past year. This [illegible] less than the number, 30, for 1926, and one less than the number, 17, for 1925, the same number, 16, as for 1924, and 17 less than the number, 33, for 1923.

The balance of Mr. Morton's report follows:

"Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death and two were put to death and then their bodies were burned.

"There were forty-two instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in the northern states and thirty-four in the southern states. In twenty-four of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented, or other precautions taken. In eighteen other instances, armed forces were used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, fifteen white and fifty-three negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of a mob.

"All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct 1; charge not reported, 1.

"The states in which the lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1."

Murfreesboro, Tenn., [illegible] Journal
Tuesday, Jan. 3, 1928

Decrease in Lynchings Last Year; Mississippi Leads States With 7

The following report is issued by the Tuskegee Institute on lynchings during the past year:

There were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30, for 1926, 1 less than the number 17, for 1925, the same number 16, as for 1924, and 17 less than the number 33, for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death; 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

Walla Walla (Wn.) Union
January 3, 1928

COMMUNICATED !

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Alabama, Jan. 2 1928.

Dear Sir:

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number, 30, for 1926, one less than the number, 17, for 1925 the same number, 16, as for 1924 and 17 less than the number, 33, for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were—murder, 7; attempted murder 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

Yours very truly,
R. R. Moton
Principal

LAWRENCE KS. JOURNAL WORLD
DECEMBER 29, 1927

FEWER LYNCHINGS

Of the lynching record in t United States for 1927 at least thing may be said: the co has made worse ones. The reco for the present year is sixte persons lynched. It is better th last year's record or the year b fore that. Only one year in t last five, 1923, had as few.

The report issued annually l R. R. Moton, principal of Tuskeg Normal and Industrial Institute, a valuable document in its bearin upon our contemporary cvilizatio Whatever lesson is read from must be read between the lines, as it is offered always without comment, stripped down to the statement of stark facts. The Moton report for the present year is as follows:

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number, 16, as for 1924, and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

Lynchings - 1927
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan. - Dec.

2605

COLUMBUS [illegible] DISPATCH
Jan. 1, 1928

THE 1927 LYNCHING REPORT.

It is gratifying to learn that 1927 swung back to the downward trend in the number of lynching cases. For some years past the number of lives lawlessly taken in this manner had been decreasing, until the total was but a fraction of what it used to be, before public sentiment against the practice had been aroused. In 1926, however, the pendulum turned the other way, and 34 lynchings were recorded. This year, the number dropped to 21, the victims of all but two of which were of the colored race. This indicates that the increase of 1926 was sporadic, and not the result of any widespread reaction in the wrong direction. There is no indication, we think, that the country will ever go back to the baleful record of the past in this particular form of violence.

In the annual message of President Coolidge, reference was made to this crime, with the suggestion that congress should do anything which constitutionally can be done to bring it under control. This vague form of statement seems to indicate the president's belief that such a federal anti-lynching bill as has been pressed in recent sessions of congress would not stand the test of constitutionality. An act of congress, with the constitution remaining as it is, cannot validate a shift of police power from the state courts to federal jurisdiction. We believe that the same pressure of public sentiment which has already wrought so great a reduction in the number of lynchings will be more effective, in the long run, than any shifting of jurisdiction. Mississippi, with one-third of last year's mob murders of this type to her discredit, is the state where the influence of public opinion is now most needed.

ST. LOUIS MO. POST DISPATCH
DECEMBER 31, 1927

THE WAY TO REDUCE LYNCHINGS.

There is a gratifying note in the record of lynchings for the past year, compiled by the Department of Records and Research of the Tuskegee Institute. There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, 34 of them in Southern states. In 24 of these cases effective precautions were taken, through the removal of prisoners or placing of guards. In 18 armed forces were used to repel lynchers.

Mississippi leads the list with seven lynchings, Arkansas follows with three, Tennessee with two, and there were one each in Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas. The lynchings were less by 14 this year than in 1926. Four Negroes were burned. The bodies of two were burned after they were killed.

The encouraging sign is the action of officers of the law to protect prisoners from mob violence. When law officers do their full duty in protecting prisoners, lynchings will be reduced to a minimum. It is the one effective preventive.

SAN ANTONIO TEX. EXPRESS
JANUARY 3, 1928

NOTABLE RECORD OF OFFICIAL RESISTANCE TO MOBS

Statistics gathered by Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute—for many years an alert investigator in the field—show that the country achieved an encouraging recovery from the lynch-murder evil during the past 12 months.

According to that institution's records, 16 persons were put to death by mobs in 1927, as compared with 30 victims in 1926. These figures indicate a return to the more hopeful conditions of 1924 and 1925, in which years the Institute counted 16 and 17 lynchings, respectively.

Sociologists, public authorities and other earnest students of this vexed problem then voiced optimistic predictions that the blot on the Nation's name would be eradicated within a comparatively few years. Striking contrasts to previous records seemed to warrant that sanguine opinion—for 83 lynchings had been perpetrated in 1919, 61 in 1920, 63 in 1921, 57 in 1922 and 28 in 1923.

The improvement was attributed to various influences—such as the persistent agitation for the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill, long before Congress; a related sentiment in the South, as the fruition of vigorous educational work; the negro migrations, which aroused thoughtful people to bestir themselves against mob violence—and so on.

Then came the relapse in 1926—30 lynch-murders—which gave all these theories a severe jolt. Renewed demands for enactment of the Dyer Bill were heard, and the publicity efforts of civic and patriotic societies were prosecuted with fresh zeal.

Some credit for the better showing last year is due those activities. As compared with the 64 atrocities in 1917, the 16 lynchings in 1927 mark a decade of progress. And no longer than 15 years ago, 145 such crimes were committed within a twelvemonth!

These facts, reported by Tuskegee Institute, show where most praise for last year's betterment belongs:

Law officers prevented lynchings in 42 instances, 34 of which were in the South. Armed force was employed 18 times to repel mobs, and 68 prisoners (15 of them white) thus were saved from such violence.

On the other hand, 12 of the 16 persons lynched in 1927 were taken forcibly from the hands of the law. Four were burned at the stake; two others were slain and their bodies consumed in bonfires. Acts of almost incredible barbarity still are committed under such circumstances.

But for the intervention of courageous, resourceful law officers, 58 names might have been added to the 1927 lynch-murder roll. Hope for progress in eradicating the [illegible] thus is seen to lie no more in the [illegible] popular education [illegible] of fearless [illegible] the support

LOUISVILLE, KY., TIMES
DECEMBER 22, 1927

Lynching "On Decrease."

Washington, Dec. 22 (AP)—Lynching is on the decrease in the South, Robert R. Moton, principal of the Turkegee Institute, told President Coolidge today during a call at the White House.

ST. LOUIS MO. TIMES
DECEMBER 24, 1927

Fewer Lynchings in South.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—There were fewer lynchings in the South this year than last, Dr. R. R. Moton, president of Tuskegee Institute, told President Coolidge. This year's figure, however, was greater than three years ago, Moton said.

SAN FRANCISCO EXAMINER
DECEMBER 30, 1927

Lynchings Show Decrease.

NEW YORK, Dec. 29.—(By the Associated Press.)—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People today made public a survey showing a decrease in the number of lynchings from 34 in 1926 to 21 in 1927.

GADSDEN, ALA., TIMES-NEWS
JANUARY 3, 1928

LYNCHINGS FEWER IN 1927; ALABAMA HAS NONE DURING YEAR

Lynchings in 1927 were fewer than in 1926 and Alabama had none at all, according to a compilation of records by Tuskegee Institute. There were 16 in the country last year.

Particularly gratifying to Alabama citizens should be the record this state made during the year. Lynchings are nothing less than mass outlawry and riot. They have no justification and are a blot on the name of any community.

In 1926 there were 30 lynchings in the United States, 14 more than there were in 1927. The same record, 16, was made in 1924.

There should be none at all and until this record can be announced there will not be much about which to boast in the situation. Alabama has that distinction for 1927 and should be proud of it. A determined effort to prevent lynchings would mean the record could be kept clean for future years. There are only a few cases where proper precautions would not prevent lynchings. That is one form of crime which can be guarded against for it is usually known when there is danger of an attempt to lynch. Where accused persons are already in the hands of officers there is seldom any real reason that they should be lynched. Sufficient precaution would prevent any attack. Outside of jails there is some excuse but inside there is little for permitting a mob to take a prisoner.

There were 42 cases in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, 34 of them in Southern states. This is the side of the record of which to be proud.

When attempts to lynch no longer occur the ideal situation will have been attained, but human nature makes it probable that no year in the near future will pass without an effort by some incensed group to take matters into its own hands.

PITTSTON PA GAZETTE
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 28, 192[illegible]

NOTABLE DECREASE IN LYNCHINGS IN 1927

Tuskegee Institute, in Alabama, founded by Booker I. Washington, of which Robert R. Moton is now principal, sends out statistics of lynchings for the year 1927. There were 16 persons lynched this year. This is 14 less than the number, 30, for 1926, 1 less than the number, 17, for 1925, the same number, 16, as for 1924, and 17 less than the number, 23, for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 3; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1. The states in which lynchings oc-

curred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

NEWS
Camden Ark
DEC 31 1927

BARTLESVILLE, OK. EXAMINER
JANUARY 3, 1928

LYNCHINGS FOR 1927 ARE LESS

GOOD ADVICE FROM THE SOUTH.

Commenting on recent complaints from Philadelphia that the Negro population of that city is furnishing more than its due proportion of crime, the Selma (Ala.) Times-Journal offers the following timely and sound advice out of the South's long acquaintance with Negro life and character:

"Philadelphia will take the right course when it undertakes to educate the Negro and lead him into useful employment. No human being is more susceptible to humane treatment than the Negro, who will respond to kindly influences just as readily as he will to evil influences. The northern cities are just waking up to find they have a 'Negro problem' on their hands. If the Negro is encouraged to practice thrift and to become a home owner, the bad members of the race can be reduced to a minimum. Long years of experience have shown that the Negro can be developed into a loyal, law-abiding element in any community; and much of his criminality is often found traceable to the conniving and persuasion of bad white men. Particularly is this true in violations of the prohibition laws."

RENO, NEVADA GAZETTE
DECEMBER 28, 1927

LYNCHINGS ARE FEWER

AN IMPROVEMENT in the attitude of the country toward lynching would appear to be shown by a report furnished from Tuskogee Institute, the negro training school founded by the late Booker Washington. The institute makes a report on lynchings annually and sends its findings to the newspapers in every state. This year, the report shows, there were sixteen of them, which is fourteen less than in 1926. In forty-two other cases officers of the law prevented mob action, thirty-four of these instances of protecting colored prisoners occurring in the South.

It is education that ultimately will put an end to lynch law throughout the United States—education and the development of true public spirit. Talk of lynching young Hickman was heard in Los Angeles within the last few days and newspapers here and there even favored that method of disposing of him, but the disposition to abide by the law is strong in California, despite the Vigilance Committee record of seventy years ago, and official precautions were found to have been taken unnecessarily. In time the same spirit will prevail where mobs now rule. The firm attitude taken by governors of many Southern states has undoubtedly had its weight with the people, and the feeling that the law must take its proper course will spread gradually but surely, if the successors of the present governors shall maintain a similar stand.

Mississippi had seven lynchings last year, while Arkansas had three. All of these occurred in small and backward communities, but even this kind of a community can be reached by education and can be taught with what horror the rest of its state regards such crimes.

Total for U. S. Reach 16, 14 Less Than In 1926

Statistics concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research, shows there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923; 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails; 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

West Point, Ga., News
JAN 12 1928

Sixteen Persons Were Lynched in 1927

There were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 for 1924 and 17 less than the number 23 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be-lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 7; attempted murder 2; rape 2; attempted rape 3; improper conduct 11; charge not reported 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas 3; Kentucky 1; Louisiona 1; Mississippi 7; Missouri 1; Tennessee 2; Texas 1.

Mt. Vernon (Wn) Daily Herald
January 7, 1928
(By Associated Press)

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 7.—Forty-three consecutive games on the gridiron without a loss is the record of Tuskegee Institute of Alabma, a negro college.

Forty of these games were won and the remainder tied. The only defeat suffered in four years of competition was early in 1923, when Morehouse College of Atlanta won, 6 to 0. During this period, the Tuskegee Tigers have scored 1,246 points against 121 for their opponents.

For the past three years, they have claimed the national negro collegiate title. While playing a spectacular game, the old fundamentals of football have been the "backbone" of the team's attack and defense.

Sparks, Ga., [illegible]
JAN 6 1928

NO LYNCHINGS IN GEORGIA IN 1927

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 31.—There were sixteen persons lynched in 1927, according to figures compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Departments of Records and Research. This is fourteen less than then number for 1926; one less than the number, seventeen, for 1925; the same number, sixteen, as for 1924 and seventeen less than the number, thirty-three, for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, and two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were forty-two instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern states and thirty-four in Southern states. In twenty-four of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In eighteen other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, fifteen white and fifty-three negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

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The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, three; Kentucky, one; Louisiana, one; Mississippi, seven; Missouri, one; Tennessee, two; Texas, one.

FOUND—Fountain Pen. Owner can get same by proving property and paying for this ad.

Lynchings-1927
Reports on, sent Press.

2606 Jan.- Dec.

CANONSBURG PA NOTES
SATURDAY, JANUARY 7, 1928.

Tuskegee Institute Compiles Figures of Lynchings Last Year

The following information concerning lynchings in the United States during the year 1927 is furnished by Robert R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, in Alabama:

There were 16 persons lynched in 1927, or 14 less than 1926, 1 less than in 1925, the same number as in 1924, and 17 less than in 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death and two were burned after being put to death in another manner.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings; eight of these in Northern and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed, guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes and the offenses charged were: Murder 7, attempted murder 2, rape 2, attempted rape 3, improper conduct 1, charge not reported 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state areas follows. Arkansas 3, Kentucky 1, Louisiana 1, Mississippi 7, Missouri 1, Tennessee 2, Texas 1.

the previous year, 17 in 1925, 16 in 1924 and 33 in 1923.

Four of the victims were burned to death, the report said, and the bodies of two were burned after they had been put to death. Offenses with which they charged included murder, assault, attempted assault and improper conduct.

The report said that of those lynched, six were taken from jails and six seized from officers of the law outside jails. It added that there were 42 instances in which officers prevented lynchings, 34 in Southern states and eight in Northern states.

HUGO, OKLA., NEWS
JANUARY 3, 1928

LYNCHING IS ON DECLINE IN U. S.

Fourteen Less In 1927 Than In 1926, Says Report

The following report on lynchings in the United States during the past year has been compiled by R. R. Morton, principal of Tuskegee Institute of Alabama.

Morton's report follows:

"I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four o the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then

YUMA, ARIZ., SUN
JANUARY 5, 1928

16 Lynchings Reported In U. S. In 1927; All Negroes

Killings Prevented By Officers of Law in 42

Cases; Mississippi Leads in Violence.

A large decrease in the number of lynchings in the United States in 1927 from the number in 1926 is noted in the report of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute in Alabama, founded by Booker T. Washington, made public yesterday.

There were 16 persons ylnched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number for 1925, the same number, 16, as for 1924 and 17 less than the number for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynches. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were—murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; assault, 2; attempted assault, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Miss-

EPHRAIM, UTAH, ENTERPRISE
DECEMBER 30, 1927

Lynchings Show Decrease

—oo—

In the annual report on lynchings in the United States as compiled by the Tuskegee Institute, a school for the training of colored young men and women, it is shown that there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number as in 1924, and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923.

ST. ELMO, ILL., BANNER
Thursday, Jan. 12, 1928

FEWER LYNCHINGS

According to the annual report of the Tuskegee Institute there were only 16 persons lynched in the United States during 1927. While this is the lowest number recorded in any year since records have been kept, except 1924 which showed the same number, it is 16 too many.

Still, when compared with the terrible record of 35 years ago, this report should give encouragment to all striving to remove the blot from American civilization. To show briefly how lynching has decreased, a few figures will be of interest.

Lynching reached its most frightful height in 1892, when 255 persons were murdered by mobs. Of this number 100 were white and 155 colored. There wre 115 lynched in 1900, 74 in 1910, 61 in 1920, 64 in1921, 57 in 1922, 33 in 1923, 16 in 1924, 17 in 1925, 30 in 1926, and 16 in 1927.

During 1927 officers of the law protected 42 persons from mobs and in numerous other cases prisoners were removed to other jails as a precautionary measure. The record of the law officers in this respect has shown much improvement in recent years. It is chiefly to the courage and determination of sheriffs and other officers that the lessening of the lynching evil is due.

the same number as for 1924 and seventeen less than the number for 1923.

Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death and two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

All the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, seven; attempted murder, two; rape, two; attempted rape, three; improper conduct, one; charge not reported, one.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, three; Kentucky, one; Louisiana, one; Mississippi, seven; Missouri, one; Tennessee, two; Texas, one.

Register
Lawrence Kan
JAN 2 1928

Lynchings

To The Editor of The Register:

Sir:—I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee institute in the department of records and research. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were — murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas 1.

Yours very truly,
ROBERT R. MORTON,
Principal.
Tuskegee Institute, Ala.,
Dec. 31, 1927.

Columbia S. Sta

SIXTEEN LYNCHED DURING PAST YEAR

Lowest Record Since 1924, According to Tuskegee Institute Data.

Tuskegee, Ala., Dec. 31 (By A. P.)—Sixteen persons, all Negroes, were lynched during 1927, it was announced today by Tuskegee institute on the basis of records compiled by its department of research and records. This compared with 30 in

Telegram
Holyoke Mass

SIXTEEN LYNCHINGS IN 1927.

Total Was Fourteen Less Than in 1926—Occurred in Seven States.

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 2.—Sixteen persons were lynched in the United States in 1927, according to the Departments of Records and Research of Tuskegee Institute. This was fourteen less than the number for 1926, one less than the number for 1925.

SANDUSKY OHIO JOURNAL
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 4, 1928.

FEWER CASES OF LYNCHING.

ACCORDING to figures compiled by the Tuskegee Institute, the year 1927 witnessed fewer lynchings than any preceding year of record, with one exception, and equaled that. During the year sixteen persons were put to death by mobs. This is fourteen less than in 1926, one less than in 1925, the same number as in 1924, and seventeen less than in 1923.

Twelve of those lynched were taken from the hands of the law by mobs, six from jails, and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four were burned to death.

Perhaps the most encouraging feature of the report for the year is the fact that there were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed, or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In eighteen other instances armed force was used to repel would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, fifteen of them white, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Not so many years ago, and especially in the southern states, officers of the law made little effort to protect negro prisoners from mobs. Times are changing.

Mississippi holds the unenviable 1927 record for lynchings, with a total of seven. Arkansas follows with three, Tennessee with two, and Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas report one each. Thus 41 out of the 48 states have a clean slate. We are glad that Ohio is one of them.

Albany Knickerbocker Press
Wednesday, January 4, 1928

THE SOUTH'S SLOW PROGRESS.

The departments of records and research of Tuskegee institute publish figures showing that sixteen persons were lynched in the United States in 1927, while on forty-two occasions lynchings were prevented by officers of the law. While this figure is exactly the same as the figure for 1924 and only one less than the total for 1925, it represents a distinct decrease from the peak years of 1923 and 1926. Thirty persons were lynched in the country last year, when bursts of mob violence appeared everywhere. The 1923 figure was thirty-one.

Eight lynchings which were prevented by officers of the law were in northern states, but all sixteen which actually took place were south of the Mason and Dixon line, seven of them in the state of Mississippi. All sixteen were negroes.

It is apparent that while some progress is being made in gaining control over the machinery of justice, the south still fails to be completely its own master. Such exhibitions as the conduct of the Alabama flogging cases are of course a continual incentive to disregard statutes and turn instead to laws made up on the spur of the moment. Sixteen lynchings are not so very many when spread out over a vast territory and over a period of a year, but each time the mob gains a victory over the law, the work of building up stable and secure justice in the south is immeasurably retarded.

No more important task faces the south today than the stamping out of such outbursts. There was a time when rough and ready justice seemed the only kind obtainable in the southern states. All that is changed now, and the south has taken its place with the progressive, enlightened sections of the country. This throwback must be eliminated.

Burlington, Ia., Post
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1927

LYNCHINGS IN THE YEAR 1927.

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala., Dec. 31, 1927.— Editor Post: I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were—murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

Yours very truly,
R. R. MOTON.

ALBANY (NY) TELEGRAM
January 1, 1928

Past Year's Lynchings

Editor of The Sunday Telegram:

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as Compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and reasearch. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, one less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924, and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death; two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In twenty-four of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were—murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

ROBERT R. MOTON,
Principal.
Tuskegee Institute, Ala., Dec. 31.

ATLANTA (GEORGIA) JOURNAL
January 1, 1928

Drop in Lynchings In South Shown

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Dec. 31.—(AP)—Sixteen persons, all negroes, were lynched during 1927, it was announced Saturday by Tuskegee institute on the basis of records compiled by its department of records and research. This compared with 30 in the previous year, 17 in 1925, 16 in 1924 and 33 in 1923.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each were listed as follows: Mississippi, 7; Arkansas, 3; Tennessee, 2; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

Four of the victims were burned to death, the report said, and the bodies of two were burned after they had been put to death. Offenses with which they were charged included murder, assault, attempted assault and improper conduct.

The report said that of those lynched, six were taken from jails and six seized from officers of the law outside jails. It added that there were 42 instances in which officers prevented lynchings, 34 in southern states and eight in northern states.

CHARLOTTE (N. C.) OBSERVER
January 4, 1928

NORTH CAROLINA AND LYNCHINGS.

While it is gratifying to learn that the country's record for lynchings in 1927 numbered only 16 as compared with 30 in 1926, the showing is no more creditable than that of 1924, when the total was the same, 16, and only one below the record of 1925. However, the past year's total was less than half the number of lynchings in 1923. All these figures are based on the records kept by the Tuskegee Institute.

What interests the people of North Carolina most is the fact that we have not had a lynching in this State since early in 1921, nearly seven years ago, and that one might have been prevented, as other attempted lynchings were prevented later, by action of Governor Morrison, if the sheriff of the county in which it occurred had advised the Governor in time.

That last lynching, just after Governor Morrison was inaugurated, was the occasion for his decree that there should be no more of them in the State while he was Chief Executive if the military forces of the State were sufficient to prevent it. With the use of the military forces and the co-operation of the sheriffs of the various counties, Governor Morrison kept the State's record clean for the balance of his four-year term, so far as lynchings are concerned, and Governor McLean has maintained the same record.

Which goes to show what might be done in other States where lynchings do mar the records and the reputation of the Commonwealths. Let us be on guard, however, and see to it that our seven-year record is not broken in the year that is now new.

Durham (NC) Sun
Jan 1, 1928

New Low Lynching Record Established

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Dec. 31.—(INS) The United States established a new low record for lynching in the year just closed. A special report issued tonight by Tuskegee Institute records sixteen killings during the year—one less than the 1925 record. Lynchings in 1926 numbered 30.

All the 1927 victims were Negroes. Twelve were taken from the hands of the law by violence. Officers of the law prevented lynching in 42 instances, eight in the northern states and 34 in the south.

The number of lynchings by states: Mississippi, 7; Arkansas, 3; Tennessee, 2; Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas, one each.

Lynchings-1927
Reports on, Sent Press,

2607

Jan. - Dec.

KNOXVILLE, TENN., NEWS
JANUARY 3, 1928

16 LYNCHINGS DURING 1927

All In South; Tennessee Third Highest; Mississippi First.

Special To The News-Sentinel

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala., Jan. 3. Progress in the prevention of mob lynchings appears in the report on lynchings for 1927 compiled by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute for colored people.

The sudden flare-up of the lynching spirit that resulted in 30 lynchings in 1926 settled back to 16 for 1927. This, however, is merely a return to the normal of several years before. In 1923 there were 17, in 1924, 16, and in 1925 there were 17.

Four of those seized by mobs during the past year were burned to death. Two were burned after they were put to death. Twelve were seized after they had been apprehended by officers of the law—six taken from jails and six from officers outside the jails.

Tennessee was third among states in the number of lynchings, having two to its discredit. Mississippi led with 7, Arkansas 3, Kentucky, Louisiana, Misouri and Texas one each.

42 Preventions

There ware 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 43 in southern states. In 24 cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. In this way 68 persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were saved from death at the hands of the mob.

All of those who were lynched were negroes. Offences with which they were charged were: Murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; assault, 2; attempted assault, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported. 1.

MORRISTOWN, TENN., SUN
Thursday, Jan. 12, 1928

Report of Lynchings for the Past Yea

Concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Dept. of Records and Research, there were 16 persons lynched in 1927.

This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924, and 17 less than the number 333 for 1923; 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies were burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented the lynchings; 8 of these were in the Northern States and 34 in Southern States.

In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 7; attempted murder 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas. 1.

Saluda, S. C., Standard

JAN 5 1928

FEWER DIE BY VIOLENCE

Lynchings For 1927 Drop To Half of Total for 1926.

Dr. R. R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee, reports that there were 166 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed forces were used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each states are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

Winder, Ga., News

JAN 5 1928

LYNCHINGS IN UNITED STATES

There were 16 persons lynched in the United States in 1927. The states in which these lynchings occurred are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

Commerce, Ga., News

JAN 5 1928

NO LYNCHINGS IN GEORGIA LAST YEAR

Tuskegee Institute, Ala.,
December 31, 1927.

Editor Commerce News,
Dear Sir:

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder 7, attempted murder 2; rape, 2; attempted rape 3; improper conduct 1; charge not reported 1

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas 3 Kentucky 1; Louisianan 1; Miss. 7; Missouri 1; Tennessee 2; Texas 1.

R. R. Morton, Prin.

Butler, Ga., Herald

JAN 5 1928

2607

ONLY 16 LYNCHINGS IN U. S. IN 1927 TUSKEGEE REPORTS

Tuskegee Institute, Ala., Dec. 29.—The following concenring lynchings for the past year was compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research. There were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than for 1926, 1 less than for 1925, the same number as for 1924 and 17 less than for 1923. Of the persons lynched 12 were taken for the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings—in Northern states 8 and in Southern states 34. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards argumented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons—15 whites and 53 negroes—were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; assault, 2; attempted assault, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas 1.

INTELLIGENCER
WHEELING, W. VA.

DEC 31 1927

A BIG IMPROVEMENT

Statistics compiled by Tuskegee Institute show a big improvement in the lynching record of the United States for the present year. There were sixteen persons, all negroes, murdered by mobs during 1927. This is fourteen less than the record for 1926 and equals that of 1924, the best previous year. Twelve were

taken from the hands of the law. Four were burned to death, and two were killed and then burned.

All these outrages were perpetrated in Southern States. Mississippi had seven, Arkansas three, Tennessee two, and Texas, Louisiana, Kentucky and Missouri each one. Due to the recent anti-lynch laws and more civilized public sentiment in these parts, officers of the law prevented forty-two mob murders either by removal of the prisoner or armed resistence. The lives of sixty-eight persons, fifteen whites and fifty-three negroes, were thus saved.

In spite of this considerable improvement, lynching is still a national disgrace. It would be a disgrace if only one life were taken by a cowardly, blood-thirsty mob. The fact that, even this year, six were burned and fifty-eight efforts were made to cheat the law shows how savage the mob spirit is and how often it can be invoked. The hopeful phase of the situation is that this kind of horror is decreasing, since recent sentiment is compelling officers of the law to resist mobs resolutely, where before there was much tacit approval of "lettin' 'em burn the nigger."

Some day civilization will progress to the point where, even in the most benighted of places, every member of a mob will be duly caught and tried either for murder or attempted murder. Some day the crime of lynching will be universally regarded as a curious relic of barbarism, as the once respectable ordeal-by-fire is now regarded

Hawkinsville, Ga., Dispatch & News

JAN 5 1928

THE LYNCHING RECORD

Two reports have been filed on lynchings in 1927. One is by Tuskegee Institute department of records and research; it shows 16. The other is by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (headquarters in New York); it shows 21. The Federal Council of Churches keeps records on lynchings also, but no report for 1927 has been made yea

The decrepancy between the Tuskegee and the National Association reports is not explained. The two frequently vary, although the present reports show a greater variation than

any recalled. Nor is there any way easily available for checking on the accuracy of the two except by such doubt as is thrown on the National Association's report by its inclusion of one lynching in North Carolina in 1927. As the term is generally used there has been no lynching in this state since 1921.

The National Association gives Florida two lynchings which are not reported by Tuskegee, gives Tennessee one more than Tuskegee does and gives California one which Tuskegee does not report.

In as much as Tuskegee has records back to 1882 it is simpler to make the institute's 1927 figures for comparison. That is done here.

Those figures show the total number of lynchings in the last ten years to be as follows;

1927—16	1922—57
1926—30	1921—64
1925—17	1920—61
1924—16	1919—83
1923—33	1918—64

Back in 1918 the number increases irregularly to 100 in 1908, to 115 in 1900, to 200 in 1893. Over the long period from 1892 to the present the curve is downward. Within the ten-year period above it is obviously and sharply downward. Nineteen twenty-six is the exception, with its total of 30, partly explained by eight lynchings in Florida and seven in Texas, both of which are far above normal for thost states. The high figure in Florida is generally attributed to unsettled conditions in the boom days, and the high figure in Texas is probably due to oil booms and the confusion they always cause. But the ten-year period shows the trend. It is unquestionably downward.

The past year shows Mississippi with the worst record. That is normal. Seven lynchings there are more than twice as many in any other state. Arkansas is credited with three, Tennessee with two, and Kentucky, Louisana Missouri and Texas with one each. That means that of the distinctly southern states Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida Alabama and Oklahoma had none. Of these last North Carolina has had none since 1921, Oklahoma none since 1923 and Alabama none since 1925.

Oven a ten year period, 1918-1927 inclusive, the southern states stand in this order.

Georgia, 81; Mississippi, 75; Texas 63; Florida, 49; Arkansas, 35; Louisianna, 27; Alabama, 23; Nroth Carolina and South Carolina, 13 each; Tennessee, 12; Kentucky, Oklahoma and Virginia, six each.

Or to extend the summary over the long period back to 1882 the number of lynchings in each southern state s as follows:

Mississippi 522; Georgia, 503; Texas 489; Louisianna, 376, Alabama, 340; Arkansas, 291; Florida, 256; Tennessee, 241; Kentucky, 212; South Carolina, 163, Oklahoma, 161; Virginia, 102 North Carolina, 91.

In essential respects the long period the ten-year period and the last year's record are in agreement. But it is worth noting that some of the far south states, notably, Alabama and Georgia, have improved notably. In Georgia, for instance, the average number murdered by mobs in the five year period of 1918-1922 was 14. But in the succeeding five-year period, 1923-1927, the average per year was two. Nobody with any knowledge of the facts holds that improvement like that is merely chance. It is caused in Georgia, as it has been caused in other states, by those who were determined to decrease mod murders.

Swainsboro, Ga., Forest Blade

JAN 5 1928

NO GEORGIA LYNCHING DURING YEAR 1927

Not a single lynching occurred in Georgia during 1927, only sixteeen lynchings were reported in the United States.

The following concerning lynchings for the past year was compiled by Tuskegee institute in the department of records and research. There were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than for 1926 1 less than for 1925, the same number as for 1924 and 17 less than for 1923. Of the persons lynched 12 were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 frof officers of the law outside of jails. Four were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

Forty-two Averted.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings—in Northern states 8 and in Southern states 34. In 18 other instances armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons—15 whites and 52 negroes—were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All Negros.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, 7; attempts murder 2; assualt, 2; attempted assault 3; improper conduct, 1. charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the numbeer in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1. Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1: Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

Rochelle, Ga., New Era

JAN 5 1928

GEORGIA HAD NO LYNCHINGS IN 1927

Dear Sir:

I send the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Record and Research I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926,1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law preventted lynchings. 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the casese prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or othre precautions taken. In 18 othre instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were—murder, 7; attempted murder, 2 rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occured and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky,1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

Yours very truly,
W. W. Moton,
Principal, Tuskegee Institute

Talladega, Ala., Home

DEC 22 1927

Fewer Lynchings Are Reported This Year

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—(I.N.S.)—There were fewer lynchings in the South this year than last, President R. R. Moton, of Tuskegee institute, told President Coolidge today. This year's figures, however, were greater than three years ago, he said.

Fort Collins (Colo.) Express Courier
January 1, 1928

Sixteen Persons Lynched in 1927 In Southern States

Sixteen persons were lynched in the United States in 1927 according to figures compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the heads of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee 2; Texas, 1.

Lynchings-1927
Reports on, Sent Press

Jan.-Dec.

2608

TRIBUNE
Irvine, Ky
JAN 6 1928

TUSKEGGEE NORMAL AND INDUSTRIAL INSTITUTE.
Tuskeggee Institute, Ala.
December 31, 1927

Dear Sir:

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the pas year as ccmplied by the Tuskegee Institue in the Departmen of Records and Research. I find that there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law. 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of joils. 4 of the persons were burned to death,, 2 put to death and then their bodies burned.

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All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were-murder, 7, attempted murder, 7; rape, 2; attefpted rape, 3: improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occured and the number each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana 1; Mississippi, 7; Misouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

Yours very truly,
R. R. Moton, Prin.

Augusta, Ga. HERALD
JAN 8 1928

A CLEAN SLATE FOR GEORGIA

THE SOUTH-HATERS and critics of the South, whenever a lynching occurs, take it as a sweet morsel and condemn the whole citizenship of the state in which the incident occurred. The record for the year 1927 shows a clean slate for Georgia, and only 16 persons were lynched in the entire South. These figures are official, and were compiled by the research department of the Tuskegee Industrial Institute, in Alabama.

The persons lynched were all negroes. Seven states are represented in the list. Mississippi leads the other states with a total of seven, while Arkansas comes next with three, and two in Tennessee, while one each was lynched in Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas. The report is most illuminating and encouraging for the improvement of the citizenship. In 1926 only one lynching occurred in this state. Our people are growing stronger and stronger in their opposition to mob law and outbreaks of like character. Our people believe in the law and respect the courts. They believe that everyone should have a fair trial, and, if found guilty, then impose punishment in keeping with the crime committed.

One of the most encouraging features of the report made by the Tuskegee Institute is that in 42 instances mob law was prevented by action of constituted authorities of the law; 34 were in the South, while eight were in the northern states.

In the past, court procedure and delays in enforcing the laws have been responsible for the outbreaks on the part of citizens in many instances. If such cases were tried without delay and the guilty parties convicted and forced to serve their sentences or pay the toll of their deeds with their lives, there would be fewer cases of lynchings. Long drawn out trials and miscarriage of justice has caused many lynchings, not only in the Southland, but in all sections of the nation. However, our people are growing saner and curbing their impulse to lynch on provocations other than for one crime. The crime of rape arouses our people to action of violating the law by enforcing the unwritten law. To their credit, however, cases of this character are growing fewer each year, and with speedy action on the part of the courts, such outbreaks will cease.

Columbus, Ga. Enquirer-Sun
JAN 7 1928

GEORGIA HAS CLEAN [illegible] AS TO LYNCHINGS
(From Rome News-Tribune)

The report of lynchings in the United States during the past year shows Georgia with a clean slate as far as this crime against government goes while the total for the country for the year was less than the year before. The report as compiled by Dr. Robert R. Moton, principal at Tuskegee institute in Alabama, shows a total of 16 persons lynched during 1927.

All of these persons lynched were negroes. Seven of them were put to death in Mississippi, three in Arkansas, and two in Tennessee, while one each was lynched in Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas.

Georgia in 1926 had one lynching against it and the clean slate in 1927 is a welcome record.

There is a growing sentiment in Georgia and the entire country for that matter, to let the courts take their course. There is no better illustration of this than when in 1926 eleven men charged with murder in connection with the lynching of a negro were sentenced to the state penitentiary in varying terms ranging from one year to life imprisonment.

Mob law is without excuse; it is a deadening blow struck at the very foundation of the law the mob members believe has been outraged when they take it into their own hands.

It is noteworthy in the report made by Dr. Moton that in 42 instances mob law was prevented from prevailing by action of recognized authorities of the law. Of these 42 instances thirty-four were in the south and eight were in northern cities.

Jefferson, Ga., Jackson Herald
JAN 5 1928

The following concerning lynchings for the past year was compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research. There were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than for 1926, 1 less than for 1925, the same number as for 1924 and 17 less than for 1923. Of the persons lynched 12 were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

Athens, Ga. Banner Herald
JAN 5 1928

A CLEAN SLATE FOR GEORGIA.

The South-haters and critics of the South, whenever a lynching occurs, takes it as a sweet morsel and condemns the whole citizenship of the state in which the incident occurred. The record for the year 1927 shows a clean slate for Georgia and only 16 persons were lynched in the entire South. These figures are official and were compiled by the research department of the Tuskegee Industrial Institute, in Alabama.

The persons lynched were all negroes. Seven states are represented in the list. Mississippi leads the other states with a total of seven, while Arkansas comes next with three, and two in Tennessee, while one each was lynched in Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas. The report is most illuminating and encouraging for the improvement of the citizenship. In 1926 only one lynching occurred in this state. Our people are growing stronger and stronger in their opposition to mob law and outbreaks of like character. Our people believe in the law and respect the courts. They believe that everyone should have a fair trial and, if found guilty, then impose punishment in keeping with the crime committed.

One of the most encouraging features of the report made by the Tuskegee Institute, is that of forty-two instances, mob law was prevented by action of constituted authorities of the law; thirty-four were in the South, while eight were in the northern states.

In the past the court procedure and delays in en-

forcing the laws has geen responsible for the outbreaks on the part of citizens in many instances. If such cases were tried without delay and the guilty parties convicted, and forced to serve their sentences or pay the toll of their deeds with their lives, there would be fewer cases of lynchings. Long drawn out trials and miscarriage of justice has caused many lynchings, not only in the southland, but in all sections of the nation. However, our people are growing saner and curbing their impulse to lynch on provacations other than for one crime. The crime of rape arouses our people to action of violating the law by enforcing the unwritten law. To their credit, however, cases of this character are growing fewer each year and with speedy action on the part of the courts such outbreaks will cease.

RICHMOND (VA) TIMES-DISPATCH
December 29. 1927

Lynchings During the Year

FIGURES compiled by the Department of Records and Research of Tuskegee Institute on lynchings in the United States during the year reveal a gratifying reduction in their number, as compared with the records of this nefarious business for the preceding twelve months.

During 1927 a total of sixteen persons lost their lives at the hands of mobs, as against thirty in 1926. There were forty-two instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern States and thirty-four in Southern States. Armed forces frequently were employed to repel mobs bent upon taking the law into their own hands. It is estimated that this vigilance and devotion to duty on the part of the authorities saved sixty-eight persons from lynching bees.

While comparison of these outrages for the years 1926 and 1927 are very gratifying, as revealing a reduction of nearly 100 per cent, 1927 does not stand out so brightly when figures for some other twelve-months periods are examined. It was just about an average year in this respect. However, the record of armed resistance to would-be lynchers is evidence of a growing protest against such acts of lawlessness, and the Times-Dispatch is looking forward to the day when this form of barbarism will be one with barbarisms of the Dark Ages.

Governor Byrd remarked some time ago that a murderer was a murderer, whether he shot down as an individual or participated in a lynching bee which resulted in death. That expresses the opinion of every law-abiding citizen, no matter where he lives. Orderly government cannot tolerate this aggravated form of disorderliness. If mobs are permitted to do to death men without the semblance of trial by constituted authority, justice has been mocked openly and the courts have become dead governmental timber. It is one of the cherished principles of civilized peoples everywhere that all men, however debased they may be, are entitled to have their peers sit in judgment upon them; when that principle is scorned the civilization we know has become endangered.

Every participant in a lynching, if it be possible to apprehend him, should be haled to a court of justice and tried for murder, just as the man who, as an individual, kills in cold blood. There is no difference, so far as the law is concerned, in their crimes.

Cochran, Ga., Journal

JAN 5 1928

16 Persons Lynched In U. S. During 1927

According to statistics just made public by the Department of Records and Research of Tuskegee Institute there were 16 persons lynched in the United States during 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death. Two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augumented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 whites and 53 negoes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were—murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rapes, 3; improper conduct 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1

Moultrie, Ga., Observer

JAN 5 1928

Georgia has passed another year without a lynching. There were only sixteen lynched in the country at large in 1927, which is as low a record as has been made in a number of years and about half the number lynched in 1926. We are proud of the Georgia record. We will not say that the day of lynchings is past in Georgia, but we know there has been a change of sentiment and public attitude towards lynching. There were a number of instances during the year where a lynching might have followed, and doubtless would have followed, if the lynching impulse had been as strong in the state as it was at one time.

Commerce, Ga., News

JAN 5 1928

No lynchings in Georgia last year. That's evolution in the right direction.

OPELIKA, ALA., News

DEC 22 1927

FEWER LYNCHINGS IN SOUTH THIS YEAR

Washington, Dec. 22.—(I.N.S.)—There were fewer lynchings in the South this year than last, President R. R. Moton, of Tuskegee Institute, told President Coolidge today. This years' figure, however, is greater than three years ago, he said.

PORTSMOUTH O., SUN
Jan. 7, 1928

Lynching

LYNCHING, thank God, is ceasing to be the favorite outdoor sport. The record is not yet what it should be but it is improving.

Sixteen persons were lynched in the United States in 1927, according to the Departments of Records and Research at Tuskegee Institute. This was fourteen less than the number for 1926, one less than the number for 1925, the same number as for 1924 and seventeen less than the number for 1923.

Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death and two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, three; Kentucky, one; Louisiana, one; Mississippi, seven; Missouri, one; Tennessee, two; Texas, one.

There should be a national law against lynching. And it should carry, not only severe personal penalties to the participants in the crime, but it should also cause the family of loss of the slain person.

Rockwood, Tenn., Times

JAN 5 1928

Georgia, where the lynching of negroes used to be regarded as a sort of legitimate outdoor sport a few years ago, did not have a lynching last year, but Tennessee comes forward with two mob murders in 1927. And in neither case was anybody punished or any real effort made to punish anybody.

Sandersville, Ga., Progress

JAN 4 1928

Only 16 Lynchings In U. S. Last Year

Tuskegee Institute, Ala., Dec. 31.—The following concerning lynchings for the past year was compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research. There were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than for 1926, 1 less than for 1925, the same number as for 1924 and 17 less than for 1923. Of the persons lynched 12 were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings—in northern states 8 and in southern states 34. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons—15 whites and 53 negroes—were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; assault, 2; attempted assault, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; and Texas, 1

Lynchings-1927 Jan.-Dec. 2609

Reports on, Sent Press.

Leader
Milwaukee
Wis. 1-30-27

16 LYNCHED IN U. S. THIS YEAR

TUSKEGEE Ala.—Sixteen persons were lynched in the United States in 1927. This is 14 less than the number (30) for 1926, one less than the number (17) or 1925, the same number as in 1924, and 17 less than the number (33) for 1923.

The above figures are revealed by the findings of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial institute, Alabama.

Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside jails. Four of the persons were burned to death and two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers; 68 persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were murder, seven; attempted murder, two; rape, two; attempted rape, three; improper conduct, one; charge not reported, one.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas three; Kentucky, one; Louisiana one; Mississippi, one; Missouri one; Tennessee, two; Texas, one.

Laurens, S. C. Herald

JAN 5 1928

Sixteen Lynched During Past Year

Tuskegee, Ala., Jan. 5.—(Special)—Sixteen persons, all negroes, were lynched during 1927, it was announced today by Tuskegee institute on the basis of records compiled by its department of research and records. This compared with 30 in the previous year, 17 in 1925, 16 in 1924 and 33 in 1923.

Four of the victims were burned to death, the report said, and the bodies of two were burned after they had been put to death. Offenses with which they were charged included murder, assault, attempted assault and improper conduct.

The report said that of those lynched, six were taken from jails and six seized from officers of the law outside jails. It added that there were 42 instances in which officers prevented lynchings, 34 in Southern states and eight in Northern states.

Kingstree, S. C. Record

JAN 5 1928

Lynchings Decrease Past Year.

The following concerning lynchings for the past year is given out by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. There were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows; Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi 7; Missouri,. 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

INDEPENDENCE, KS. REP
JANUARY 3, 1928

FEWER LYNCHINGS IN THE YEAR JUST PAST

Dear Sir:

Lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the department of Records and Research. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number, 30 for 1926, one less than the number 17, for 1926, the same number, 16 as for 1924, and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented the lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southerns states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchings. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; and Texas, 1.

Picayune, Miss., Item

DEC 30 1927

Mississippi Leads in Lynchings

Nearly One Half of Illegal Executions in the United States Take Place in Mississippi.

According to a report from compiled statistics gathered by the Tuskegee Normal Institute, in the department of Records and Research, 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 White and 53 Negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1 charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2: Texas, 1.

Dawson, Ga., News

JAN 3 1928

GEORGIA FREE FROM LYNCHINGS IN 1927

DECLINE IN MOB VIOLENCE OVER THE ENTIRE UNITED STATES IS SHOWN.

There were sixteen persons lynched in the United States in 1927, fourteen less than in 1926, when the number was thirty, according to figures compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state, according to the Institute's figures, are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1. Georgia, which several times has been unfavorably distinguished by leading the list in the number of lynchings, passed the year 1927 without having a life taken by mob violence.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; not reported, 1.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of these cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances armed force was used to repel would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes, were thus saved from death by mobs.

SPRINGFIELD, MO. LEADER
JANUARY 1, 1928

LOW MARK FOR LYNCHING SET

Sixteen Persons, All Negroes, Slain by Mobs in South in 1927.

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Dec. 31.—(I. N. S.)—The United States established a new low record for lynchings in the year just closed.

A special report issued tonight by the Tuskegee Institute records 16 lynchings during the year, one less than the previous low record of 1925.

All the 1927 victims were Negroes. Twelve were taken from the hands of the law by violence.

Lynchings in 1926 numbered 30.

Officers of the law prevented lynchings in 42 instances, the report added. Eight of these instances were in northern states and 34 in the southern. The number of lynchings by states:

Mississippi, 7; Arkansas, 3; Tennessee, 2; Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas, 1 each.

Columbus, Ga. Enquirer-Sun

JAN 7 1928

OUR LYNCHING RECORD
(From Chattanooga Times)

Sixteen persons, all negroes, were lynched in this country last year, according to statistics compiled by the department of records and research, of Tuskegee institute. The states in which the crimes were committed and the number listed in each were as follows; Mississippi, 7; Arkansas, 3; Tennessee, 2; Kentucky, 1; Louiiana, 1; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1. The offenses with which the victims were charged included murder, assault, attempted assault and improper conduct. Death was inflicted

on some by shooting, and on others by hanging, while four were burned alive.

This record, which is a national disgrace and an international scandal, shows that, for all our vaunted superiority in the matter of self-government, there are in the United States a considerable number of men who are far from being qualified for the responsibilities of self-government — men who, under the provocation of crime aggravated by race prejudice, succumb to the spirit of the mob and proceed to override the authority of the state and deprive fellow-beings of their lives, sometimes in the most barbarous manner.

There is, however, reason to believe that the number of such individuals is steadily growing smaller. The sixteen lynchings in 1927 represented considerable improvement over 1926, when there were 30. The record was lower than that of 1925, with 17 deaths at the hands of mobs, and equaled that of 1924, the previous low year. It was a tremendous improvement over 1917, with its 38 lynchings; a still greater one over 1908, with its 100 victims of mob violence. Going back still further, it is seen that the country has indeed traveled a long way on the road to a lynchless era, for in 1901 there were 135 lynchings, in 1893, 200, and in 1892, 255.

This improvement has come about through the growth of public sentiment against mob violence and through greater effort on the part of some officers of the law to keep prisoners from falling into the hands of mobs. Last year, for instance, forty-two lynchings were prevented by officers who had the intelligence to outwit lawless gangs or the courage to withstand them. Nevertheless, six of the sixteen individuals lynched last year were taken from jails and six others from officers outside jails, and responsibility for the lynching of these twelve persons undoubtedly rests in some measure, if not wholly in some instances, upon the officers who failed, forgot their sworn duty, and gave way in the presence of the mobs demanding their charges.

In its efforts to stamp out mob executions, the country has need of more sheriffs, deputies and jailers, who have the courage and the ability to remain in control of the situation when the mob spirit is running riot. It also has need of some serious effort on the part of law-enforcement authorities to bring lynchers into court and punish them for their crimes against their victims and their states. And few states have greater need for these things than Tennessee, for it was disgraced by two mob executions in 1927, and not a single lyncher was so much as indicted.

The 1927 Lynching Record

TUSKEGEE NORMAL AND INDUSTRIAL INSTITUTE makes the following summary of the country's record in lynchings for 1927:

There were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 White and 53 Negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were—murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

On the basis of the comparisons here made with the records of the years since 1922 in unlawful killings by mobs, there is some ground for encouragement to those who long to see lawful justice triumph over mob violence. Even so, the 1927 list of deaths inflicted by organized bands of citizens smply justifies the Federal Council of Churches in calling upon the American people to offer prayers to God that this stain upon American life may be removed.

It will be noted that there were more lynchings for murder than for any other crime, so that the ancient excuse of mob action for the protection of womanhood falls to the ground.

Perhaps the most encouraging fact in this report is that in 34 Southern states officers of the law prevented mob violence, thus in all probability saving from death at the hands of mobsmen both Whites and Negroes.

Wherever there are resolute and alert officers of the law, there the chances against lynching are reduced far toward zero. Wherever there are wide rural spaces unpoliced, the opportunities for mobs are increased.

In addition to prayer, the country needs more stern sheriffs and other executors of the law and, especially in the South, more police protection for the countryside.

Columbus, Ga. Enquirer-Sun

JAN 7 1928

ALABAMA'S RECORD UNSTAINED BY LYNCHING

(From Anniston Star)

Alabama passed through 1927 without a lynching to mar its record. In statistics compiled by the Tuskegee Institute of Records and Research, it is shown that there were sixteen persons lynched during 1927, all in Southern states, but not one life was sacrificed at the hands of a mob in this state.

Mississippi tops the list with seven lynchings; Arkansas is next with three; Tennessee had two, while Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas had one each.

The total number of lynchings for the year is fourteen less than the total in 1926 when thirty were reported. However, it is only one below the number in 1925 and exactly the same as in 1924. In 1923, which leads all other years covered in the Tuskegee report in the matter of lynchings, there were thirty-three persons killed by mobs.

An encouraging portion of the report is that officers of the law acted to prevent forty-two attempted or threatened lynchings, and saved the lives of 68 persons who might otherwise have been the victims of enraged bands of men. Movements to thwart mobs in twenty-four instances took the form of augmented guards or spiriting prisoners away to other jails, while in eighteen other cases armed force was used to repel would-be lynchers.

Sixteen persons lynched are too many. That places a dark enough blot on the record of the South as a whole. One such affair is too many. There should not be any lynchings. But there is some satisfaction in knowing that nearly three times as many lynchings were prevented as were allowed to occur. A disposition on the part of officers everywhere to prevent mob killings is indicated.

Alabama's clean slate in 1927 will be a source of pride to every resident of the state, and it is to be hoped that never again will the name of this commonwealth be smirched with the taking of the life of a human being by a mob.

Concord, N. C., Times

JAN 5 1928

LYNCHINGS SHOW DECREASE.

According to figures compiled by the Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, 16 persons were this being 14 less than the number 30 for 1926. The total also was one less than the number 17 in 1925, the same number 16 in 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 in 1923.

Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, the report says, six from jails and six from officers of the law on the outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

More important than the lynching total, however, is that phase of the report that deals with the number of attempts at lynching that were prevented. There were 42 instances during the year in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern states and 24 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances the report adds, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes thus were saved from death at the hands of mobs if the figures are accurate.

All of the persons lynched were negroes, and the offenses charged were: murder 7; attempted murder 2; rape 2; attempted rape 3; improper conduct 1; charge not reported 1.

Here are the States in which the lynchings occurred and the number in each State: Arkansas 3; Kentucky 1; Louisiana 1; Mississippi 7; Missouri 1; Tennessee 2, and Texas 1.

We are gratified to see that the name of North Carolina is not among those listed as reporting lynchings during the year. We are in the class of those States where armed force had to be used to prevent lynchings and while it is to be regretted that the mob spirit was evident at all, it is gratifying to know that officers of the State were capable of handling the emergencies when they arose.

Typhlitis Va News

JAN 7 1928

FEWER LYNCHINGS.

To The Editor of The News:

Sir: I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, one less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number as for 1924, and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law; six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death; two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were—murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 2; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

Yours very truly.

R. R. MOTON.

Tuskegee, Ala., December 31, 1927

The fact that lynchings dropped off in all of the States is encouraging also, as is the fact that in many States in the South in addition to North Carolina officers were able to hold in check mobs which sought to take the law into their own hands.

Lynchings 1927
Reports on, Sent Press.
Columbus, Ga. Enquirer-Sun

Jan.-Dec.

2610

JAN 7 1928

Lynching Record, 1927, Shows Decrease; None Occurred in Georgia or Alabama

WE DID COME THROUGH
(From Macon Telegraph.)

Figures on lynchings issued by the National Asosciation for the Advancement of Colored People do not jibe with those that come from Tuskegee Institute. The association says that 21 persons were mob victims during 1927, while Tuskegee gives the number as 16. It may be that the two agencies arrived at their totals upon different bases; that Tuskegee did not regard as lynching five crimes of violence in which persons lost their lives.

No matter what the difference is, neither agency was able to include Georgia among those states whose peoples had given themselves over to mob violence. Statistics do not run as far back as the days of General Oglethorpe, but it is perhaps true that 1927 was the first year since the early days of the Georgia colony when there was no mob violence. The achievement is all the more significant when it is considered that during the year there was at least one case that would have certainly, in other days, provoked a lynching. That was the case in Jasper county when a Negro assaulted a white woman. Not only were the few hoodlums who threatened violence promptly warned that to attempt it would mean trouble, but the feeling that emerged from that crime was one of friendliness for the responsible Negros of the community and the desire to protect them from that blind racial ill-feeling that attends such crimes and lynchings.

Georgians may well have pride in the fact that there were no lynchings in their state. Aside from the fact that the achievement places us with those states that have become civilized, at least to that extent, it indicates that we have passed from under the brutalizing and degrading influences of irresponsible mobs. Because sentiment has switched so perceptibly, it is increasingly harder for a mob to get in its work. The attitude of responsible citizens is no longer one of passivity when a mob threatens; on any number of occasions recently, good citizens have offered their services to sheriffs who were doing their duty in protecting their prisoners. The sheriff who wants to preserve the life of his prisoner until the courts order it taken, always can do it by the exercise of force. It is growing easier for him to do it, because the public is supporting him.

Recently the editor of the *Manufacturers' Record* attempted to give an ingenious explanation, and perhaps defense, of lynching, by saying that mobs lynched because they wanted to spare white women victims the humiliation of going into court and subjecting themselves to scrutiny and to brutal examinations by defense attorneys. That explanation betrays an ignorance of mobs and an ignorance of court procedure in such cases. *No mob thinks of such niceties as court trials in the heat of aroused passion; reasoning has no place with hoodlums.* What makes them kill is the blood lust, the primeval passions rising and sweeping away everything else, government, orderly processes and everything else. Anyone who knows court procedure in aggravated assault cases knows, also, that no attorney would dare subject a victim to brutal cross examination. As a matter of fact, few victims ever go into a court room. Their evidence is taken either in private or by interrogatories. Mr. Edmonds was merely giving lynchers a basis of reasoning for doing that in which there is no reason, only passion.

GEORGIA OFF THE "BLACK LIST"

(From Atlanta Constitution.)

The department of records and research of Tuskegee Institute has completed its annual survey as to lynchings in the United States during 1927. The record is most commendable in showing a steady decrease, and is illustrating the vigilance of officers in preventing mob violence. It is particularly gratifying to Georgia, for not one lynching occurred in this state from January 1, 1927, to this new year day—a record that it was hoped would be reached in 1926, but which was not made due to a lynching in the last half of the year.

At any rate while several of the other southern states have made unenviable record, especially Mississippi, whose lead in 1927 is most deplorable and regrettable, Georgia has at last been eliminated from the "black list", and it is hoped it has attained a position in this manner which it will always maintain.

In the entire country there were only 16 lynchings in 1927, which is 14 less than the number for 1926. Twelve of the victims were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of the jails.

The survey shows that there were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynching. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed, or the guards augmented, or other precautions taken. In 18 other cases armed forces were used to repel the mobs.

The states in which lynchings occurred, and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

It is noticeable that, along with Georgia, there were no 1927 lynchings in either of the Carolinas, or in Florida or Alabama. That is, the south Atlantic seaboard states, or the southeast proper, made a record in 1927 so commendable in this respect that it is deserving of comment and general national knowledge. It illustrates that in this great section of the country there is developing a stronger feeling for the supremacy of law and order, and for the integrity of constituted authority. The press crusades against floggings, and other evidences of mob violence, and the courage of enforcement and court officials, along with a stronger public sentiment against mob violence, have been contributing factors towards this improved situation.

At this time leaders of public affairs in Mississippi are endeavoring to remedy the disgraceful mob-violence situation in that state, and it is hoped with success ahead of them.

There is no place for the mob any more than for the anarchist or the communist who conspires to tear down organized and legalized government. It is a hopeful sign that the lynching situation in the southeast was greatly improved in the year that has just closed.

FACTS SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES

(From Greensboro Daily News.)

The old theory that the mobs of the south murder because the south is determined to keep its women from attacks by men ought by now to have been buried as deep as the bodies of the victims of mobs. But for all that has been done to the theory it shows an amazing vitality. It is still cited often as the reason why lynchings are more popular below the Mason and Dixon line than elsewhere. Behind this pretense of protecting womanhood, holding honor inviolate and preserving the home is the most reasonable defense that believers in mob rule can cite. They still do it, in the face of the fact that every study of lynchings shows the most frequent crime is not that against women.

The figures for 1927, announced by Tuskegee institute, tell the story again. Of the 16 lynchings the department of records and research of the institute has listed, one is described as due to an unknown cause. Another is listed as caused by "improper conduct", which presumably might be a first step in a contemplated attack against a woman, although that is by no means sure. Three are attributed to attempted criminal assault, and two to criminal assault. Seven were due to murder and two more to attempted murder.

If the two instances of criminal assault, and three of attempted criminal assault and the one instance of "improper conduct" are combined, there are six lynchings under this classification. But beside that must be placed the nine lynchings attributed to murder and attempted murder and a tenth to an unknown cause.

There is nothing surprising in that report. Year after year Tuskegee has made reports closely similar to it. Every study of the actual events which infuriate men to mob action reveals virtually the same facts. Over the whole period during which records have been kept on lynchings the facts are the same. Murder always leads. Attacks on women are present, but always in the minority. The past year shows a slightly higher ratio than usual, but even so the full record shows that nearly 80 per cent. of the lynchings are due to causes other than criminal assault.

These facts speak for themselves. *They reduce to absurdity the plea that the south's women can be protected only by mob murder after an attack.* If the records showed only those lynchings caused by this crime, the records would show only about one-fifth as many lynchings.

Fitzgerald, Ga., Herald

DEC 30 1927

1927 RECORD SHOWS FEWER LYNCHINGS

The following concerning lynching for the past year has been compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. There were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same numebr 16 as for 1024 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 25 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were—murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

Savannah, Ga. [illegible]

JAN 7 1928

No Lynchings in 1927.

Columbia State:—Among the satisfactions a South Carolinian may allow himself, a reviewing the year 1927, far from least is that not one of the sixteen lynchings that were committed occurred within his state. May the next year be kept likewise unblackened!

Officers of the law prevented lynchings in forty-two instances during 1927, thirty-four such instances being in Southern states. Mob action was averted in others by effective and timely precautions, as by removal of prisoners or the augmenting of guards. This phase of the year's record in respect of lynching undoubtedly reflects an improvement in the attitude of responsible peace officers toward their obligations, while such attitude is itself conditional appreciably by corresponding improvement in public opinion within their jurisdictions.

Inter-racial relations in South Carolina manifestly grow better and happily nothing is at this time apparent which seems likely to impede progressive betterment. Organized good will has its functions in this field, but a ground of encouragement is that so far in this state improvement has been rather a product of individual good will. Workable mutual adjustment between the races in any locality must after all be for the most part merely the sum of kindliness, respect, forbearance, as felt and practiced by individual members of the community in their daily living.

Norfolk, Va., Pilot

JAN 2 1928

Lynchings Touch The Low Mark

During 1927, according to records kept b Tuskegee Institute, there were 16 lynching as compared with 30 in 1926, 17 in 1925, and 1 in 1924. The last-named year had the smalles number of lynchings since 1885 when the keep ing of accurate records began. The curren year's record was as good as the best. The ad jectives are pressed into service for want of a better way of putting it. No record that con tains a single instance of so foul and unclean a thing as mob murder, can be called "good." There will be no lynching records good in the absolute sense, until lynching is extinct. With this clarification, the country may take comfort in this year's "good" record. Only 16 per sons were violently done to death without trial or jury. There have been years, and within the present century, when the number exceeded 100. In the Year of Our Lord 1892, 400 years after Columbus discovered this new asylum of civilization, the number was 255. With only 16 mob murders in 1927, we may say that we have made progress. By way of a sobering note it may be remarked that all 16 were Negroes, that 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law—six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails —that four of the persons lynched were roasted alive and two killed and afterwards cremated.

Among the brighter items in the record is the fact that lynchings were prevented by officers of the law in 42 instances—34 of these preven tions taking place in the Southren States. In 1 instances lynchings were prevented by use o armed force to repel mobs. In other cases th would-be-lynchers were thwarted by the r moval of prisoners to places of safety, by au mented guard details and other precautior By these measures 15 white persons and Negroes were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

The States charged with lynchings in 1927 are Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas, one each; Tennessee, two; Arkansas, three, and Mississippi, seven. Alabama, Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Virginia of the Southern group, close the year with a clean slate. Virginia's escape from the 1927 role of dishonor is one of careful measurement. The Negro, Leonard Woods, who was lynched at Pound Gap a month ago, seems to have come by his death through the ministrations of a mob deriving from both Virginia and Kentucky. He was taken from a Kentucky jail but set up and shot to death on a platform erected 10 days before, supposedly on the Virginia-Kentucky boundary line, to serve the needs of Virginia and Kentucky functionaries who foregathered to celebrate the opening of an interstate highway. Exactly where the Negro was suspended when the fusillade made an end of him has not been scientifically ascertained. A few inches from the postulated position would have put him in Virginia. As it is, the record charges this lynching up to Kentucky. In reality it perfumes both States.

GAZETTE
ROCKFORD, ILL.
DEC 31 1927

THE BLOT ON THE NATION.

Figures made public by Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute show there were 14 fewer lynchings in 1927 than in 1926. The number this year was 16, one less than in 1926, the same number as in 1924 and 17 less than in 1923.

Twelve of the persons lynched this year were taken from law officers, six from jails and six from outside of jails. Four of the twelve were burned to death.

There were 42 instances, according to the Institute's figures, in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers; 68 persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were—murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Mississippi, 7; Arkansas, 3; Tennessee, 2; Missouri, Texas, Kentucky and Louisiana, 1 each.

Lynching is a terrible blot on the nation. The figures reveal a large reduction in this crime from the preceding year, but they show, too, that it was prevented in 42 instances only by the vigilance of the authorities. Mississippi, especially, is shown in the light of making an outlaw of itself. It is a sorry position Mississippi occupies in the family of states. May the new year bring a larger respect for law everywhere in the union.

Journal
Spartanburg S C
JAN 2 - 1928

LYNCHING RECORD FOR 1927

Records compiled by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute show that for the past year 16 persons were lynched throughout the United States, this number being 14 less than were recorded for the year 1926, when the total ran up to 30. There were 42 instances in which officers prevented lynchings, 8 of these in Northern states. This within itself is an encouraging sign, indicating that the public conscience is more fully aroused to the atrocity of lynching. In every instance the victim of Judge Lynch was a negro and the states in which these lynchings occurred and the number per state were: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1, South Carolina kept a clean score for the year. All lawabiding citizens are grateful therefor. Yet there is general and deep regret that nothing to date has been done to round up and punish the participators in that triple Aiken county lynching, in which two negro men and a young negro woman were taken from the jail and brutally and cowardly done to death. Not an arrest has been made in the case to date.

STROUD OK MESSENGER
JANUARY 6, 1928

Tuskegee Institute, Alabama,
December 31, 1927.

Stroud Messenger:

I send you the folowing concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails, 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 8; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occured and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3 Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Miss

issippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee 2; Texas, 1.

Yours very truly,
R. R. Moton, Principal.

Kershaw, S. C., Era

JAN 4 1928

ABOUT LYNCHINGS

Robert R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, has sent out the following communication to the press of the country and it is being given general circulation. We take peculiar pleasure in publishing it, because it shows that no lynching took place in South Carolina during 1927:

"I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past years as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department Records and Research. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were—murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

Lynchings 1927
Reports on, Sent Press

Glenville, Ga., Sentinel

JAN 5 1928

NO LYNCHINGS IN GEORGIA IN 1927.

For the first time in many years Georgia has a stainless record so far as lynchings are concerned. For a long time Georgia had more lynchings than any other state in the union which caused us to have an uneviable record throughout the nation and subjected us to severe criticism from the press, especially in the North. We are proud of the fact that we can present one clean sheet. We rejoice that the better judgment of the people is beginning to assert itself; that we are beginning to learn that after all it is better to let the law administer punishment.

Gainesville, Ga., Eagle

curred and the number in each state are as follows: rkansas, 3; Kentucky 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri. 1: Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

Carrollton, Ga. Times

JAN 5 1928

DEC 29 1927

Sixteen Persons Lynched in 1927

There were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 ofr 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 for 1924 and 17 less than the number 23 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

Sixteen Persons Were Lynched in 1927

There were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 for 1924 and 17 less than the number 23 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

Jan.—Dec.

2611

NEWARK, N. J.
Star
JAN 5 1928

Law Gains on Lynching

It is one of the blots on our national civilization that every New Year's review should have to include the number of persons slain by mob violence in the preceding twelvemonth. A record of lynchings is an annual outgiving by the research department of Tuskegee Institute, Georgia. It shows sixteen murders of this class in 1926, all of them in seven Southern States. Mississippi heads the roll of dishonor with seven. There had been thirty in the year before.

The decrease of almost 47 per cent might seem on its face to indicate a marked recession in this particular kind of crime wave. Such a comparison, however, is too limited in range to be conclusive, as the high mark of thirty-three set in 1923 was followed by a falling to sixteen in 1924 and seventeen in 1925.

The really bright side of last year's dark picture is that prompt and courageous action by officers of the law saved the lives of sixty-eight persons from mob violence. This shows at least some awakening of official conscience.

With the right sort of governors, sheriffs, jailers and militia commanders everywhere, this shameful sort of statistics in time ought to disappear from our national annals. Their existence is a disgrace to the communities and States which compel their compilation. They indicate that the people who participate in or tolerate the lynchings are themselves intolerant of the laws which they claim to vindicate.

NEWS
Wayne W. Va.
JAN 12 1928

FEWER LYNCHINGS

According to the annual report of the Tuskegee Institute, there were only 16 persons lynched in the United States during 1927. While this is the lowest number recorded in any year since records have been kept, except 1924 which showed the same number it is 16 too many.

Still, when compared with the terrible record of 35 years ago, this report should give encouragement to all who are striving to remove the blot of lynch law from American civilization. To show briefly how lynching has decreased, a few figures will be of interest.

Lynching reached its most frightful height in 1892, when 255 persons were murdered by mobs. Of this number 100 were white and 155 colored. There were 115 lyched in 1900, 74 in 1910, 61, in 1920, 64 in 1921, 57 in 1922, 33 in 1923, 16 in 1924, 17 in 1925, 30 in 1926 and 16 in 1927.

During 1927 officers of the law protected 42 persons from mobs and in numerous other cases prisoners were removed to other jails as a precautionary measure. The record of law officers in this respect has shown much improvement in recent years. It is chiefly to the courage and determination of sheriffs and other officers that the lessening of the lynching evil is due.

Asheboro, N. C., Courier

JAN 5 1928

Only 16 Persons Lynched In 1927

All Of Them Negroes — No Lynching In North Carolina During The Year.

Figures compiled by the research bureau of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute at Tuskegee Institute, Ala., shows that only 16 persons were lynched during the year 1927. These lynchings were distributed as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; and Texas, 1. There was no lynching in North Carolina during the year. Thirty persons were lynched in 1926, therefore the 1927 record is better than that of the previous year by 14. The Tuskegee research bureau finds that 42 lynchings were prevented during 1927 by quick action by officers of the law. Armed force was used to repel mobs in 18 other instances. All told, 68 persons were kept from being lynched. All those lynched in 1927 were negroes.

2611

Greer, S. C., Citizen

JAN 5 1928

16 PERSONS LYNCHED IN 1927

The following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research.

There were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas 1.

Charlottesburg, Va., Progress

DEC 22 1927

FEWER LYNCHINGS IN 1927.

Washington, Dec. 22.—(INS)—. There were fewer lynchings in the south this year than last, the president of Tuskegee Institute, told President Coolidge today.

This year's figure, however, was greater than three years ago.

Irving, Ky., Tribune

JAN 6 1928

TUSKEGGEE NORMAL AND INDUSTRIAL INSTITUTE.
Tuskeggee Institute, Ala.
December 31, 1927

Dear Sir:

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the pas year as complied by the Tuskegee Institue in the Departmen of Records and Research. I find that there were 16 person lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as fo 1924 and 17less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the per- sons lynched were taken from the hands of the law. 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of joils. 4 of the persons were burned to death,, 2 put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevent ed lynchings. 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern States. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were re- moved or the guards augemented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were saved death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were-murder, 7, attempted murder, 7; rape, 2; attep- ted rape, 3: improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana 1; Mississippi, 7; Misouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

Yours very truly,

R. R. Moton. Prin.

VICKSBURG, MISS.
HERALD
JAN 10 1928

FEWER LYNCHINGS

According to the annual report of the Tuskegee Institute, there were only 16 persons lynched in the United States during 1927. While this is the lowest number recorded in any year since records have been kept, except 1924 which showed the same number, it is 16 too many.

Still, when compared with the terrible record of 35 years ago, this report should give encouragement to all who are striving to remove the blot of lynch law from American civilization. To show briefly how lynching has decreased, a few figures will be of interest.

Lynching reached its most frightful height in 1892, when 255 persons were murdered by mobs. Of this number 100 were white and 155 colored. There were 115 lynched in 1900, 74 in 1910, 61 in 1920, 64 in 1921, 57 in 1922, 33 in 1923, 16 in 1924, 17 in 1925, 30 in 1926 and 16 in 1927.

During 1927 officers of the law protected 42 persons from mobs and in numerous other cases prisoners were removed to other jails as a precautionary measure. The record of law officers in this respect has shown much improvement in recent years. It is chiefly to the courage and determination of sheriffs and other officers that the lessening of the lynching evil is due.

PITTSBURGH, PA.
Press
JAN 4 1928

16 PERSONS LYNCHED IN 1927, RECORDS SHOW

Editor of The Press:

I sent you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee institute in the department of records and research. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number, 30, for 1926; one less than the number, 17, for 1925; the same number, 16, as for 1924, and 17 less than the number, 33, for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death; two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented, or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

R. R. MOTON,
Principal.
Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute.

Post Dispatch
St. Louis Mo.
12-31-27

THE WAY TO REDUCE LYNCHINGS.

There is a gratifying note in the record of lynchings for the past year, compiled by the Department of Records and Research of the Tuskegee Institute. There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, 34 of them in Southern states. In 24 of these cases effective precautions were taken through the removal of prisoners or placing of guards. In 18 armed forces were used to repel lynchers.

Mississippi leads the list with seven lynchings. Arkansas follows with three, Tennessee with two, and there were one each in Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas. The lynchings were less by 14 this year than in 1926. Four Negroes were burned. The bodies of two were burned after they were killed.

The encouraging sign is the action of officers of the law to protect prisoners from mob violence. When law officers do their full duty in protecting prisoners, lynchings will be reduced to a minimum. It is the one effective preventive.

MIAMI FLA. HERALD
JAN 8 1928

RECORD IMPROVING.

GRADUALLY, the doleful and disgraceful tale of lynchings in this country becomes less and less and less, every year.

During the year just closing there were, according to the research department of Tuskegee Institute, 16 lynchings; three in Arkansas, one in Kentucky, one in Louisiana, seven in Mississippi, one in Missouri, two in Tennessee and one in Texas.

The number lynched during the year, all of them, by the way, negroes, was 14 less than the number for the year 1926; 17 less than for the year 1925, the same as for the year 1924, and 17 less than the number for the year 1923.

The figures indicate that the practice of lynching is gradually dying out and leads to the confident hope that within a very short time it may be reported that the country is free from this crime.

One encouraging feature in the report made by the institute is that officers of the law seem, this year, to have shown more courage in defending accused persons and more energy in protecting them from mob violence.

During the year there were 42 instances where officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 cases, prisoners were removed or guards were augmented or other precautions were taken. In 18 other cases armed forces were used to repel would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from the hands of mobs.

The record is improving. May the next year see a still farther advance.

Lynchings-1927

Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan.-Dec.

2612

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., POST
JANUARY 2, 1928

LYNCHINGS DROP

Report Shows 16 Killed By Mobs In 1927

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 2.—Records compiled in the department of research at Tuskegee Institute revealed today that 16 negroes were lynched in 1927 compared with 30 in 1926, 17 in 1924 and 33 in 1923.

Mississippi heads the list of states in which lynchings occurred, with seven; Arkansas had 3; Tennessee, 2; Kentucky 1; Louisiana 1; Missouri, 1; Texas 1.

Offenses with which they were charged included, murder, assault, attempted assault and improper conduct. The report said that of those lynched six were taken from jails and six seized from officers outside jails. It added that there were 42 instances in which officers prevented lynchings, 34 in southern states and eight in northern states.

SOUTH BEND IND NEWS-TIMES
MONDAY, JANUARY 2, 1928.

New Low Record is Set In 1927 for Lynchings

By International News Service:

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 1.—The United States established a new low record for lynchings in the year just closed.

A special report issued Saturday night by the Tuskegee institute records 16 lynchings during the year—one less than the previous low record of 1925.

All the 1927 victims were Negroes. Twelve were taken from the hands of the law by violence.

Lynchings in 1926 numbered 30.

Officers of the law prevented lynchings in 42 instances, the report added. Eight of these instances were in northern states and 34 in the southern.

The number of lynchings by states: Mississippi seven; Arkansas three; Tennessee two; Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas one each.

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., AGE-HERALD
JANUARY 7, 1928

Cold Comfort

The report on lynchings in 1927 which Tuskegee Institute has issued should be gratifying to Southerners in general and to Alabamians in particular. It can be at best only a tentative gratification. So long as any lynchings are recorded there will be cause for regret. Yet to know that only 16 persons were lynched in 1927, as compared to 30 in 1926, is comforting, and to know that not one of these extra-legal executions took place in Alabama is genuinely reassuring.

To be sure, this commonwealth has been visited by other afflictions only slightly less barbarous than lynchings. To be sure, the whipping of helpless people by masked savages prevents Alabamians from growing complacent.

But it is welcome information, nevertheless, to be told that throughout last year this state has been free of the kind of mob law which is not satisfied with less than the death of its victim.

GREENSBORO (N. C.) RECORD
January 1, 1928

SIXTEEN NEGROES LYNCHED IN 1927

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Dec. 31.—(UP)—Sixteen persons, all negroes, were lynched during 1927, according to the annual lynching report made by Tuskegee Institute here tonight.

This compared with 30 in the year previous, 17 in 1924 and 33 in 1923.

The states in which lynchings occurred in 1927 were: Mississippi, 7; Arkansas, 3; Tennessee, 2; Kentucky, 1; Missouri, 1; and Texas, 1.

Four of the victims were burned to death the report said and the bodies of two victims were burned after they were put to death.

DECATUR, ILL., REVIEW
Sunday, Jan. 1, 1928

Lynching Less Popular.

There were sixteen persons lynched in 1927, according to statistics mailed out by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute of Alabama. This is fourteen less than the number for 1926, one less than the number for 1925 and seventeen less than the number for 1923.

More interesting is that there were forty-two instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states, and thirty-four in southern states.

Every year national sentiment turns more strongly against mob justice. Lynchings have no place in modern times, and are in direct violation of law. The number is still just sixteen too high. There are no circumstances that warrant lynching. If a crime is committed for which the penalty is death, then it should be administered by the state.

Concord NC Tribune
JAN 2-1928

LYNCHINGS SHOW DECREASE.

According to figures compiled by the Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, 16 persons were this being 14 less than the number 30 for 1926. The total also was one less than the number 17 in 1925, the same number 16 in 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 in 1923.

Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, the report says, six from jails and six from officers of the law on the outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

More important than the lynching total, however, is that phase of the report that deals with the number of attempts at lynching that were prevented. There were 42 instances during the year in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern states and 24 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, the report adds, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes, thus were saved from death at the hands of mobs if the figures are accurate.

All of the persons lynched were negroes and the offenses charged were: murder 7; attempted murder 2; rape 2; attempted rape 3; improper conduct 1; charge not reported 1.

Here are the States in which the lynchings occurred and the number in each State: Arkansas 3; Kentucky 1; Louisiana 1; Mississippi 7; Missouri 1; Tennessee 2, and Texas 1.

We are gratified to see that the name of North Carolina is not among those listed as reporting lynchings during the year. We are in the class of those States where armed force had to be used to prevent lynchings and while it is to be regretted that the mob spirit was evident at all, it is gratifying to know that officers of the State were capable of handling the emergencies when they arose.

The fact that lynchings dropped off in all of the States is encouraging also, as is the fact that in many States in the South in addition to North Carolina officers were able to hold in check mobs which sought to take the law into their own hands.

FORT LAUDERDALE (FLA) NEWS
December 23, 1927

LYNCHING SAID TO BE ON DECREASE

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23 (AP)—Lynching is on the decrease in the south, Robert R. Moton, principal of the Tuskegee Institute, told President Coolidge today during a call at the White House.

The Negro educator said the president inquired specifically into the situation regarding lynching and mob violence and that he was able to report that on the basis of present indications the number of lynchings for this year would be substantially below those for 1926.

Mr. Coolidge also received a report on the hospital located at the institute which some time ago was placed entirely under the jurisdiction of a Negro personnel. Moton declared that the hospital was showing fine progress.

ATLANTA (GEORGIA) JOURNAL
December 22, 1927

THE ATLAN

Lynching Decreasing, President Is Told by Tuskegee Principal

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—(AP)—Lynching is on the decrease in the south, Robert R. Moton, pricipal of the Tuskegee institute, told President Coolidge Thursday during a call at the White House.

The negro educator said the president inquired specifically into the situation regarding lynching and mob violence and that he was able to report that on the basis of present indications the number of lynchings for this year would be substantially below those for 1926.

Mr. Coolidge also received a report on the hospital located at the institute which some time ago was placed entirely under the jurisdiction of a negro personnel. Moton declared the hospital was showing fine progress.

SPRINGFIELD, ILL., REGISTER
Wednesday, Jan. 4, 1928

THE WAY TO REDUCE LYNCHINGS

(St. Louis Post-Dispatch)

There is a gratifying note in the record of lynchings for the past year, compiled by the Department of Records and Research of the Tuskegee Institute. There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, 34 of them in southern states. In 24 of these cases effective precautions were taken, through the removal of prisoners or placing of guards. In 18, armed forces were used to repel lynchers.

Mississippi leads the list with seven lynchings, Arkansas follows with three, Tennessee with two, and there were one each in Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas. The lynchings were less by 14 this year than in 1926. Four Negroes were burned. The bodies of two were burned after they were killed.

The encouraging sign is the action of officers of the law to protect prisoners from mob violence. When law officers do their full duty in protecting prisoners, lynchings will be reduced to a minimum. It is the one effective preventive.

news
Danbury Conn
JAN 2-1928

has been made in several lines during the year just passed," referring to increased bank failures.

Sixteen persons were lynched in the United States in 1927, acording to the Departments of Records and Research of Tuskegee Institute. This was fourteen less than the number for 1926, one less than the number for 1925, the same number as for 1924 and seventeen less than the number for 1923.

HOPKINSVILLE, KY., NEW ERA
DECEMBER 30, 1927

Only Sixteen Lyn

Assuming that there more lynchings in the l days, the Tuskegee Institute ord shows sixteen for 1927 as com pared with thirty in 1926, seventeen in 1925 and sixteen in 1924. Four were burned to death. All of the sixteen were negroes. They were charged with murder seven, attempted murder two, rape two, attempted rape three, not reported two. The lynchings were in seven states—Mississippi, 7; Arkansas, 3; Tennessee, 2; and one each in Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas. In 42 instances officers prevented lynchings.

BIRMINGHAM (ALA) NEWS
December 22, 1927

LYNCHING DECREASES

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—(AP)—Lynching is on the decrease in the South, Robert R. Moton, principal of the Tuskegee Institute, told President Coolidge Thursday during a call at the White House.

SAVANNAH (GEORGIA) PRESS
December 22, 1927

LYNCHING DECREASES IN THE SOUTH, MOTON TELLS PRESIDENT

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22—(AP)—Lynching is on the decrease in the South, Robert R. Moton, principal of the Tuskegee Institute, told President Coolidge today during a call at the White House.

Saturday Evening Post
JAN 3 1928

its candidate, whose name is held.

The annual statement furnished by the Tuskegee Institute on lynchings in the United States shows 16 such crimes committed in 1927. The report says there was not a lynching last year in North Carolina, Virginia, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama and Oklahoma. Tuskegee does not accept the early assertion made by Kentucky authorities that the negro recently lynched near the line dividing the two States actually was hanged on Virginia soil.

HOPKINSVILLE, KY., NEW ERA
JANUARY 2, 1928

16 Lynchings in the Year of 1927; 42 Are Prevented

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 2.—The following data concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research shows there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, and the same number 1* as for 1924, and 7 less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in Northern States and 34 in Southern States. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, 7; attempted murder 2, rape, 2, attempted rape 3, improper conduct 1, charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas 1.

COLUMBIA (S. C.) RECORD
January 1, 1928

12 Lynchings in 1927 Lowest Mark Yet For Country

TUSKEEGEE, Ala., Dec. 31.—The United States established a new low record for lynching in the year just closed.

A special report issued tonight by Tuskeegee Institute records sixteen lynchings during the year—one less than the previous low record of 1925.

All the 1927 victims were negroes. Twelve were taken from the hands of the law by violence. Lynchings in 1926 numbered 30.

Officers of the law prevented lynchings in 42 instances, the report stated. Eight of these instances were in northern states, and 34 in the South. The number of lynchings by states:

Mississippi, 7; Arkansas, 3; Tennessee, 2; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Missouri, 1; Texas 1.

Grand Rapids Herald
JANUARY 6, 1928

DECREASED

made by an also- New York shows a in the number of n 1927 as compared evious year. In were 34 lynchings d States; in 1927

...n of the persons were lynched in Mississippi, in 1927, the report shows; three in Tennessee, three in Arkansas, two in Florida, one on the Kentucky - Virginia border, and one each in Louisiana, Missouri, North Carolina, Texas and California. All but two of the victims were negroes.

ABERDEEN, WASH., WORLD
JANUARY 3, 1928

LYNCHINGS DROP SHARPLY IN YEAR

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 3.—Information issued through the school for colored, Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, founded by Booker T. Washington, for the year 1927, shows that 16 persons were lynched comparative with 30 during the previous 12 months. It is the smallest number since 1923, when 16 were also recorded. Twelve of the group this year were taken from the hands of the law, six being taken from jails. There were 42 instances in which officers prevented lynchings. In 18 other instances armed forces were used to repel the mobs. Of the total 68 persons, 15 were whites and 53 negroes. All of those lynched were colored, with Mississippi leading in number. Arkansas and Tennessee were also the scene of several lynchings.

Enid
OK. REGISTER
JANUARY 5, 1928

MISSISSIPPI LEADS IN LYNCHINGS FOR 1927

All the Victims Were Negroes

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala., Jan. 2.—There were sixteen lynchings in the United States for the year 1927, according to figures compiled by the Tuskegee Institute.

Almost half of these were in Mississippi, where the total was seven. Arkansas had three lynchings, Tennessee two and Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas each one, according to the report. All of the persons lynched were negroes.

The total for the year was the smallest of any time in the last five years, except for 1924, which also had sixteen. The 1926 total was thirty, 1925 seventeen and 1923 thirty-three. Offenses charged for 1927 were murder 7, attempted murder 2, criminal assault 2, attempted criminal assault 3, improper conduct 1 and one charge was not reported.

The report also states that forty-two attempted lynchings were prevented, eight in Northern States and thirty-four in Southern States.

Sixty-eight persons were thus saved from mobs of whom fifteen were white and fifty-three negroes.

Four of the victims were burned to death and bodies of two others were burned after they had been put to death.

Lynchings-1927
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan.- Dec.

2613

NEW YORK (NY) MORNING WORLD
January 1, 1928

16 LYNCHED IN NATION IN 1927, ALL NEGROES

Fourteen Less Than in 1926, Tuskegee Institute Reports—168 Saved by Officers

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala., Dec. 31.—According to a compilation by Tuskegee Institute, sixteen persons, all Negroes, were lynched in the United States in 1927—fourteen less than in 1926 and one less than in 1925. Seven were lynched in Mississippi, three in Arkansas, two in Tennessee, and one each in Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas.

The offenses charged were: Murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1. Fifty-three Negroes and fifteen whites were saved from lynchings in forty-two instances by officers of the law. Eight of these cases were in the North and thirty-four in the South. But twelve of those lynched were taken from officers, six of them from jails and six from officers outside jails.

ing the south popular in all sections of the country. Just as Florida at least made a feint at reforming her outrageous convict leasing system to help the tourist business, so the rest of the south is discouraging lynching, among other reasons, to attract business and industry southward. If humaneness and decency get a boost from these motives, no realist will complain. By such small victories humaneness and decency have always been advanced.

Of course, this is not the sole explanation of the reduction in the number of lynchings and the increased activity on the part of officers of the law to prevent them. The migration of the Negro northward is another reason. The gradual realization that the "Negro menace" was more imaginative than real is another. Perhaps the concentration of the lynch mobs' sadistic fury upon white "offenders against decency," bootleggers and ladies who lure other wife's husbands is another. For the perverts who engage in these practices it is probably as much fun to flog a white woman with a trunk strap as to burn a black man. De gustibus non disputandum, and the Kingdom of Heaven is not exactly at hand yet. But every small reduction in mob violence helps.

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negroes. The offenses charged were negroes. The orenses charged were murder, 7; attempted murder, 2 rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

Hartford Ct. Courant
JAN 3 1928

...it would secede individually whether or no.

LYNCHING.

Although there are to be found in the annual report of Principal Moton of Tuskegee on the lynching question fourteen fewer lynchings for the year 1927 than occurred in 1926, perhaps the most interesting implication in the report is contained in the sentence: "There were forty-two instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings." That thirty-four of these incidents occurred in the southern states is especially encouraging.

If this means anything, it means that a public opinion is forming in the south behind officers of the law who are prepared to do their duty in the protection of prisoners awaiting trial or punishment. A few years ago it was considered inevitable that the sheriff and his deputies would be "powerless" to intervene, if they did not actually stand aside and invite the "boys" to help themselves to the prisoner. At last the better element in the south, which has always been ashamed of lynching, has been aided by a revival of prosperity and by the necessity of mak-

PITTSFIELD, ILL., REPUBLICAN
Wednesday, Jan. 4, 1928

THE RECORD OF LYNCHINGS LAST YEAR

There were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number, 30, for 1926, one less than the number 17, for 1925, the same number 16, as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33, for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

CLARKSVILLE TENN. STAR
Friday, Jan. 6, 1928

SIXTEEN VICTIMS OF MOBS IN 1927

NUMBER FOURTEEN LESS THAN IN 1926, INSTITUTE FIGURES DISCLOSE.

A total of sixteen persons were lynched throughout the United States during the year 1927, according to a report by Robert R. Moton, principal of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute in Alabama. The figures were compiled in the department of records and research of the Tuskegee Institute.

This number is fourteen less than the number for 1926 and one less than the lynching victims of 1925. In 1924 there were sixteen and in 1923 there were thirty-three. Twelve of the persons lynched this year were taken from the hands of the law, six having been taken from the jails and six from officers outside of the jails. Four of these persons were burned to death and two were put to death and their bodies burned.

There were forty-two instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and thirty-four in southern states. In twenty-four of these cases the prisoners were removed, or the guard augmented, or other precaution taken. In eighteen of the other instances, armed forces were used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, fifteen white and fifty-three negroes, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, seven; attempted murder, two; rape, two; attempted rape, three; improper conduct one; charge not reported, one.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas 3, Kentucky 1, Louisiana 1, Mississippi 7, Missouri 1, Tennessee 2 and Texas 1.

Times
NEW YORK CITY
JAN 1 1928

Crime and Disasters

By ROBERT R. MOTON,
Principal of the Tuskegee Institute.

I SEND you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. I find there were sixteen persons lynched in 1927. This is fourteen less than the number (thirty) for 1926, one less than the number (seventeen) for 1925, the same number (sixteen) as for 1924 and seventeen less than the number (thirty-three) for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were forty-two instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern States and thirty-four in Southern States. In twenty-four of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In eighteen other instances armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, fifteen white and fifty-three negroes, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

Jan. 9—Movie picture theatre fire at Montreal causes death of 77 in panic.

Feb. 27—In England 65 coal miners perish in two mine accidents.

March 5—A cyclone causes 500 deaths and ruin of property at Port Tamatave, Madagascar.

March 7—Earthquake in Osaka and Kobe zone, Japan, causes death to 6,000, makes 50,000 families homeless, and destroys property valued at $50,000,000.

April 14-May 30—The great Mississippi Valley floods, after a fortnight's rain, causing a breakage of levees and inundating large ares in several States, with prodigious destruction of life and property. According to official figures a million acres were under water, with property loss between $200,000,000 and $400,000,000 and 300,000 persons homeless. The Red Cross raised $15,000,000 for relief and other contributions amounted to a like figure. (See "National Government.")

May 9—Henry Judd Gray and Ruth Brown Snyder are sentenced to death for the murder of the latter's husband in Queens Village, L. I., March 2.

July 9—A cloudburst in Saxony, Germany, causes the death of 800.

July 11—An earthquake in Palestine and Transjordania causes the death of 1,000.

Aug. 22-23—Famous Sacco-Vanzetti case, sustained by radicals, ends with execution of criminals.

Sept. 29—A five-minute tornado at St. Louis kills 90, injures 1,500 and destroys property worth $75,000,000.

Oct. 11—Ocean City, N. J., has a $4,000,000 fire.

Oct. 26—Off Brazil the Italian liner Principessa Malfada sinks with 1,238 persons on board, all but 300 of whom are reported saved.

Oct. 29—Unprecedented floods and gales in Northern United Kingdom cause the death of 100.

Nov. 2—Heavy floods in Connecticut Valley cause heavy loss of property and 200 lives.

Dec. 1—Floods in Algeria cause loss of 2,000 lives and $23,580,000 worth of property.

Dec. 10—For the murder of Dr. William Lilliendahl at Hammonton, N. J., Sept. 15, Mrs. Lilliendahl, the widow, and Willis Beach are sentenced to 10 years.

Dec. 17—U. S. submarine S-4 is rammed by Coast Guard destroyer Paulding off Provincetown, Mass., and sinks with forty-four men.

Dec. 18—Marian Parker, 12-year-old schoolgirl, is kidnapped and slain at Los Angeles, Cal., by W. E. Hickman, who, on arrest, alleges an accomplice.

Dec. 20—George Remus, former "bootlegger king," is acquitted of the murder of his wife on ground of insanity.

Dec. 23—In New York, Calogero Greco and Donato Carillo are acquitted of the murder of Nicolas Amorroso and Joseph Cariso on May 30.

Dec. 26—New York police records show no felony committed in N York within twenty-four hour

Dec. 27—Spread of Chinese f revealed, with 9,000,000 said starvin

DES MOINES IA REGISTER
DECEMBER 29, 1927

THE YEAR'S LYNCHINGS.

Tuskegee Institute, Ala.—To the Editor: I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 in 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were—murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

R. R. Moton, Principal.

DENISON TEX HERALD
DECEMBER 27, 1927

LYNCHINGS SHOW DECREASE IN TEXAS

The following statement has been issued by Robert R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Institute:

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, one less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails; four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were forty-two instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern states and thirty-four in Southern states. In twenty-four of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In eighteen other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, fifteen white and fifty-three negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1, charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1, Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2

LEAVENWORTH, KS, TIMES
DECEMBER 27, 1927

BECOMING MORE CIVILIZED

For years the Tuskegee (Ala.) Department of Research has kept a record of the number of lynchings in this country. Following is the report for the year just closing.

There were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were—murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

Two things in the report are very gratifying. One is that the number of lynchings continues to keep away below what it was immediately after the World War and the other that there is a marked decrease of lynchings for the crime against women which held so large a place years ago. Perhaps, also, we should rejoice at the evidence given that officers prevented lynchings. In that, however, several things are to be considered. If the officers actually prevented so large a number of lynchings it would indicate that the disposition of the people to take the law into their own hands had not changed very greatly. But we are inclined to suspect that in many of the cases there was no real disposition to lynch and in others, perhaps, the officers sought credit where none was due.

Right at this Christmas season we prefer to believe that there is an increasing desposition among the people to rely upon the law, and we are willing to believe that the officers of the law are becoming more determined that the law shall take its course.

CYNTHIANA, KY., DEMOCRAT
Thursday, Jan. 5, 1928

LYNCHINGS IN 1927

R. R. Morton, principal of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, Alabama, furnishes the following figures:

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 whites and 53 Negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were—murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 7; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

CARLISLE, KY., MERCURY
Thursday, Jan. 5, 1928

LYNCHINGS FALL OFF DURING 1927

Sixteen Meet Violent Deaths For Crimes Committed In Past Year
Decrease of Fourteen

Statistics compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Deparment of Records and Research show only sixteen persons were lynched during the year 1927, a decrease of fourteen from the number 30 for 1926. The report shows that the number of lynchings were one less than the 17 for 1925, the same number 16 for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the number were burned to death while two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were —murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

Troy (Ala.) Record
Tuesday, January 3, 1928

LYNCHING TOTALS.

According to the statistics prepared by Robert R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Institute, there were 16 lynchings in 1927. This compares favorably with 1926 when the number was 30. Only a few years ago the number was 60 a year; so the tendency is rapidly downwards.

All of the lynchings were in southern states—seven in Mississippi, three in Arkansas, two in Tennessee and one each in Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas. All of those who were lynched were Negroes and seven paid the penalty for murder, two for attempted murder, two for rape and three for attemped rape. Four of them were burned to death.

No law-abiding citizen can tolerate lynch law. It speaks of savagery. It lends itself to terrible mistakes. It brutalizes people who act under mob excitement, allowing their passions to carry them out of human range and into the domain of animalism.

There is one sure cure for lynching and only one. That is justice. The justice should be of two kinds. First, there should be swift retribution for those who participate in a lynching; for they are murderers, just as truly as are those whose death they seek. Second, there should be swift punishment for the culprits themselves. Lynchings originated because people fear courts will be too lenient or execution too long delayed.

It is cases like those of Remus, Loeb, Leopold and their kind that create the lynch spirit. It is only in a very refined and civilized community that a Remus could be acquitted and could eventually go free without being visited shortly by a mob and compelled to pay the proper penalty for his crime. Fortunately, we still trust our criminals to the court and the jury. If the courts and juries continue to fail, if district attorneys and lawyers delay and accept minor pleas or secret considerations and if murderers find an easy way to freedom through the insane asylum, as did Thaw, it will be difficult to keep the tide of lynching ebbing. The matter is in the hands of the ent, that southern courts and juries people. One cannot expect, at pres- will invariably convict members of a lynching mob; but it is sure that there will be a gradual decline of the spirit if judges and jurors can be trusted and if lawyers and district attorneys are not permitted to delay undul- the trial of murderers for their crimes.

Lynching Figures

Tuskegee, Ala., Dec. 31.—(AP)—Sixteen persons, all negroes, were lynched during 1927, it was announced today by Tuskegee Institute on the basis of records compiled by its department of records and research. This compared with 30 in the previous year, 17 in 1925, 16 in 1924, and 33 in 1923.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each were listed as follows:

Mississippi, 7; Arkansas, 3; Tennessee, 2; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

Shreveport Journal
Jan 3 1928

Lynchings-1927
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan. - Dec.

2614

2614

Jim Crow Journalism

AUSTIN TEX. AMERICAN
JANUARY 3 1928

OBSERVATIONS ON CRIME

Our office is in receipt of the regular annual report from the department of records and research of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute in regard to lynchings during the past year. The report says: "There were sixteen persons lynched in 1927. This is fourteen less than the number thirty for 1926, one less than the number seventeen for 1925, the same number sixteen as for 1924 and seventeen less than the number thirty-three for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.'' Mob violence is to be deplored as is all lawlessness. There is a feeling of relief that the year 1927 registered an improvement over recent previous years, and it is hoped that law enforcement officers and the good sense of the citizenship of our country will make further improvement on this record. With all that is done to check crime, it seems that there is still entirely too much of it.

Criminals are usually developed. They do not spring into existence in a moment. It is a matter of growth. Our papers during the past two weeks have been filled with reports of an atrocious crime in California committed by a young man not yet out of his teens, and since his arrest, it is reported that he has made confession to a large number of burglaries and other crimes that were not before attributed to him. The papers report that some of his "pals" told how they together read the sensational front page articles of burglary, murder and other crimes, and in this way their minds were doubtless prepared for the work of crime. It is not best that so much space should be given in the daily press to reports on crimes. There is something wrong in our educational systems and ideals. Young people in the schools are taught too much materialism and too little spirituality.

find there were sixteen persons lynched in 1927. This is fourteen less than the number thirty for 1926, one less than the number seventeen for 1925, the same number sixteen as for 1924 and seventeen less than the number thirty-three for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were forty-two instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern States and thirty-four in Southern States. In twenty-four of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In eighteen other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers sixty-eight persons, fifteen white and fifty-three negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, seven; attempted murder, 2; rape, two; attempted rape, three; improper conduct, one; charge not reported, one.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas three; Kentucky, one; Louisiana, one; Mississippi, seven; Missouri, one; Tennessee, two; Texas, one.

Yours very truly,
ROBERT R. MORTON, Prin.
Tuskegee Institute, Dec. 31, 1927.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

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Bklyn N. Y. Eagle
JAN 7 - 1928

Lynchings Decreased During Past Years

A decrease in the number of lynchings from 34 in the year 1926 to 21 in the year 1927 is reported by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 69 Fifth ave.

Mississippi leads with seven victims of lynching mobs, Tennessee and Arkansas each having a record of three lynchings, Florida two, and the following States each having had one: Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri, North Carolina, Texas and California.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People differs from Tuskegee in including as lynchings the beating to death by prisoners in a Los Angeles jail of a white man resembling the kidnaper, William Hickman; the shooting to death by a posse of Joseph Upchurch in Paris, Tenessee, and the shooting by a posse of Thomas Bradshaw near Bailey, North Carolina.

Besides the white prisoner beaten to death in Los Angeles jail, one other white man, Berry Ollen, is reported to have been seized by a mob at Mayo, Florida, and thrown into the Suwanee River while being conveyed to a hospital after a fight with a range rider and deputy sheriff.

Of the victims lynched, four were burned alive and the bodies of two others were publicly burned after death. Three of the mob victims were taken from peace officers and jails in Mississippi and one each in Arkansas, Florida, Missouri, Louisiana, Tennessee and Texas. Of the 21 victims only 4 were accused of attack upon a white woman.

Ansonia Conn Sentinel
JAN 6 1928

THE STATE OF LYNCHING.

The practice of Tuskegee Institute in keeping a complete comparative record of the statistics of lynching in the United States, and presenting without comment the facts to the American public at the end of each year, is one of its greatest features of public service. It has just furnished the facts and figures for 1927, and they contain some encouragement for those who don't believe in lynching.

The year just closed did not attain a minimum of lynchings, but it had only 16, which was 14 less than in 1926, one less than in 1925, the same number as in 1924 and 17 less than in 1923. There will be occasional lapses, but the tendency is to decrease.

The Tuskegee presentation indicates why, by mentioning the fact that in 1927 officers of the law, by prompt and courageous action, prevented lynchings in 42 instances, saving in all 68 persons from death at the hands of mobs. It is more to the point that in 42 instances a state was saved from conspicuous disgrace by substituting trial by law for mob-murder, often of the most outrageous character. For though there were only 16 lynchings, four of them were by burning alive, and in two other instances the bodies were burned after the lynching. All were acts of passion, and all were committed against Negroes. It naturally follows that all took place in southern states. Mississippi had nearly half of them.

We need never expect, so long as men have passions and so long as mobs are possible, to stamp out lynching wholly. But the time may come when lynching will be followed by such legal punishment that it will be as stealthily committed as are other murders, and never will receive anything like community approval.

Covington Va Virginian
JAN 5 1928

Letters From the People

LYNCHING RECORD

TO THE EDITOR: Sir—I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. I

POCATELLO, IDA., TRIBUNE
JANUARY 2, 1928

LYNCHINGS SHOW MARKED DECLINE

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala., Jan. 2.—Concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research, there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

Atlanta Ga Georgian
JAN 2 - 1928

Georgia's Good Record

ROBERT R. MOTON, principal of Tuskegee Institute, has given to the press of the nation the following communication:

Dear Editor:

"I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year, as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research:

"I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number (30) for 1926, 1 less than the number (17) for 1925, the same number (16) as for 1924 and 17 less than the number (33) for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death; two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

"There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings; 8 of these were in Northern States and 34 in Southern States. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs. All of the persons lynched were negroes.

"The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

"Yours very truly,

"R. R. MOTON, Principal."

"Tuskegee, Ala."

The statistics compiled by Tuskegee are credited generally throughout the nation as being accurate and informative. Careful checking of former statements in this regard have been found frankly fair and foundationed upon fact.

The figures are better than they used to be; we are making progress in getting away from the disgrace of lynching in this nation—especially here in the South.

We still, however, have a good ways to go!

It is gratifying to note that Georgia has a clean slate for 1927.

There were no lynching in the "Empire State of the South" last year—not one!

That's good!

Tuskegee, Ala., Jan. 1.—(AP): Sixteen persons all negroes, were lynched during 1927, it was announced today by Tuskegee Institute on the basis of record compiled by its department of research and records. This compared with 30 in the previous year, 17 in 1925, 16 in 1924 and 33 in 1923.

Four of the victims were burned to death, the report said, and the bodies of two were burned after they had been put to death. Offenses with which they were charged included, murder, assault, attempted assault and improper conduct.

The report said that of those lynched, six were taken from jails and six seized from officers of the law outside jails. It added that there were 42 instances in which officers prevented lynchings, 34 in Southern States and eight in North-

Tampa Tribune Fla
JAN 1 1928

16 Lynchings Is Record For 1927; 30 Previous Year

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Dec. 31—(AP)—Sixteen persons, all negroes, were lynched during 1927, it was announced today by Tuskegee Institute on the basis of records compiled by its department of records and research. This compared with 30 in the previous year, 17 in 1925, 16 in 1924 and 33 in 1923.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each were listed as follows: Mississippi, 7; Arkansas, 3; Tennessee, 2; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

Four of the victims were burned to death, the report said, and the bodies of two were burned after they had been put to death. Offenses with which they were charged included murder, assault, attempted assault and improper conduct.

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Dispatch Henderson N C
DEC 29 1927

MOB VIOLENCE WANING.

Hopes of the better element of Southern citizens, and that includes most of them, that lynching may some day become a thing of the past appear to be drawing toward realization. Statistics just announced by Robert R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, in Alabama, point to progress in that direction made during 1927.

The record is compiled by the Tukegee department of records and research, and shows that 16 persons were lynched during 1927. This is 14 less than the number in 1926, which was 30; one less than the number in 1925, which was 17; the same number as in 1924, and 17 less than the 33 lynchings in 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched this year were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from oficers of the law outside the jails. Four of the victims were burned to death and two were put to death and their bodies then burned.

Forty-two instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings are reported. Eight of these were in northern States and 34 in the States of the South. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers, and 68 persons, 15 white and 53 negroes, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The ofenses charged were: seven for murder, two attempted murder, two rape, three attempted rape; one for improper conduct, and one in which the charge was not learned.

Mississippi led all the States in the number of lynchings, with seven. Arkansas was next with three; Tennessee had two, and one each is reported for Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas.

Thanks to men like Judge Grady and Sherif Grant of Wayne, North Carolina is not in the list and the State's good record of many years standing without any instance of mox violence of this type is kept up. There are, of course, times when the passions of men become so heated that they are unable to control them, and when the standards of decency are outraged to the point where it is able to restrain these pent-up feelings and to permit the law to take its course. In most of the aggrevated instances, justice will be meted out if the opportunity is presented.

OAKLAND, CAL., TRIBUNE
JANUARY 5, 1928

LYNCH LAW AND 1927.

For years the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute has been issuing a grim report of the lynchings which have taken place during the twelve months passed. Many people have looked upon the figures as an indication of the advances or lapses in civilization. They have not been pleasant for enlightened thought in no instance condones mob action.

There were sixteen persons lynched in 1927 while there were thirty in 1926, seventeen in 1925, sixteen in 1924 and thirty-five in 1923. Speaking comparatively only the record is one of the best. It deserves a further study for it answers some questions, disproves some assertions made in ignorance, and reveals in its horror a situation of which a nation may well be ashamed.

All of the lynchings took place in the southern states, all of those lynched were Negroes. Offenses charged were: murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1. There were three lynchings in Arkansas, two in Tennessee, and one each in Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri and Texas.

Though white men had committed similar offenses in each of these states, the mobs signaled out one race only for vengeance. The Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, presenting the figures, makes no comment and none is needed. Until the national disgrace of lynch law is removed our civilization faces an indictment.

Charleston S C News
JAN 2 - 1928

of the heaviest he had ever seen.

Sixteen Persons Lynched in 1927

Lynchings - 1927
Reports on Sent Press

Jan. - Dec.

2615

Rockford Ill. Register Gazette
Saturday, Dec. 31, 1927

THE BLOT ON THE NATION.

Figures made public by Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute show there were 14 fewer lynchings in 1927 than in 1926. The number this year was 16, one less than in 1926, the same number as in 1924 and 17 less than in 1923.

Twelve of the persons lynched this year were taken from law officers, six from jails and six from outside of jails. Four of the twelve were burned to death.

There were 42 instances, according to the Institute's figures, in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers; 68 persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were—murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Mississippi, 7; Arkansas, 3; Tennessee, 2; Missouri, Texas, Kentucky and Louisiana, 1 each.

Lynching is a terrible blot on the nation. The figures reveal a large reduction in this crime from

e preceding year, but they show, too, that it was evented in 42 instances only by the vigilance of e authorities. Mississippi, especially, is shown in e light of making an outlaw of itself. It is a rry position Mississippi occupies in the family of ates. May the new year bring a larger respect for w everywhere in the union.

TUSCALOOSA, ALA., NEWS.
JANUARY 3, 1928

Lynchings In 1927

ALABAMA'S record is clear of lynchings during the year of 1927, according to the announcement which has just been made from Tuskegee Institute, where the records for the past year have been compiled. Arkansas has three to her discredit, Kentucky, one; Louisiana, one; Mississippi, seven; Missouri, one; Tennessee, two; and Texas, one. All of the lynchings occurred in the south, though in eight instances lynchings were prevented in the north by officers, and officers in the north by officers, and officers in the southern states prevented thirty-four lynchings.

The 1927 record was fourteen less than the record for 1926, when thirty persons were lynched. The reduction is a matter in which the nation may take pride.

But while Alabama's records are clear as regards lynchings, floggings, which are offenses of a similar nature have gained for Alabama as much unfavorable publicity as have lynchings for the other southern states. The publicity, however, was warranted. Flogging can continue only so long as identities remain hidden and the public is not in possession of the facts. Next year it is to be hoped that Alabama's flogging record will show considerable improvement, and it is not at all likely that the past year's record in that line will be continued.

Philadelphia Pa. Record
JAN 4 1928

According to the figures compiled by Major R. R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Institute, who for many years past has presented this annual review, there were 16 lynchings of Negroes during 1927. This, it is good to hear, is 14 less than the number for 1926, but it is distressing to note that Mississippi more than maintains its unenviable distinction as the leading offender among the States of the South. Mississippi has to its discredit seven of these crimes of mob violence, or nearly 50 per cent. of the total for the entire country. The other States represented, and the number of their offenses, are: Arkansas, three; Kentucky, one; Louisiana, one; Missouri, one; Tennessee, two; Texas, one. There is a considerable measure of comfort, however, in the thought that during the past few years this abominable practice has greatly decreased. As recently as 1922 six whites and 51 Negroes, a total of 57, were murdered by mobs throughout the country, mostly in the South.

MONRCOMERY (ALA) ADVERTISER
December 3, 1927

AN IMPROVED LYNCHING RECORD

Dr. Robert R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Institute, sends the press the annual report on lynchings as compiled by the Department of Records and Research at Tuskegee.

Naturally in examining this report we hastened to see what the cold figures showed for Alabama. Happily, and not at all to our surpdise, it is found that Alabama's record for the last 12 months is again clean. We had no lynching in this State in 1927. We have had none since 1925, we believe. And what is equally gratifying is that there were no lynchings in either of the Carolinas, nor in Georgia, nor in Virginia—all Southern States.

The record for the country is very much better than for 1926, though no better than for 1925.

It appears from the Tuskegee compilation that there weer 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 frpm officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern States and 34 in Southern States. "In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken." In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs."

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were—murder 7, attempted murder 2, rape 4, attempted rape 3, improper conduct 1, charge not reported 1.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas 3, Kentucky 1, Louisiana 1, Mississippi 7, Missouri 7, Tennessee 2, Texas 1.

Southern newspaper editors are puzzled by the fact that the statistics of Tuskegee Institute and of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People are not in agreement. Tuskegee places the number of lynchings at 16 the National Association at 21. The Macon Telegraph and The Greensboro Daily News are curious to know the explanation of the discrepancy. For itself, The Advertiser prefers to accept Tuskegee's statistics, not because they are more favorable, but because the National Association is a propaganda society and as such is more militant than Tuskegee. Tuskegee's Department of Research seeks only information, the National Association is eager also to draw conclusions and make a point. We have always found the Tuskegee records to be reliable.

Special interest attaches to Georgia's clean record because it is unprecedented. The Georgia newspapers are elated over the fine showing of their State. The Columbus Enquirer-Sun, The Macon Telegraph and The Atlanta Constitution and others unite in celebrating.

Says The Telegraph:

No matter what the difference is, neither agency was able to include Georgia among those States whose people had given themselves over to mob violence. Statistics do not run as far back as the days of Gen. Oglethorpe, but it is perhaps true that 1927 was the first year since the early days of the Georgia colony when there was no mob violence. The achievement is all the more significant when it is considered that during the year there was at least one case that would have certainly, in other days, provoked a lynching. That was the case in Jasper County when a negro assaulted a white woman. Not only were the few hoodlums who threatened violence promptly warned that to attempt it would mean trouble, but the feeling that emerged from that crime was one of friendliness for the responsible negroes of the community and the desire to protect them from that blind racial ill-feeling that attends such crimes and lynchings.

The Constitution is happy to report that "Georgia has at last been eliminated from the 'black list,' and it is hoped it has attained a position in this manner which it will always maintain."

The Houston Post-Dispatch thinks that the steady improvement in the lynching situation makes it unlikely that Congress will enact a Federal anti-lynching law. The Post-Dispatch in its editorial also pays special tribute to those officers of the law in the South who have done so much to check the mob spirit.

Officers of the law are said to have saved the lives of 68 persons, 15 of them white, in 1927. Says The Post-Dispatch:

Suppose these sixty-five who were saved had been added to the sixteen who were done to death. That would have been eighty people slain by maniacal mobs in one year. What a ghastly and humiliating record that would have been for the Nation that poses as the most enlightened in the world. Could the rest of the world have been blamed had it pointed the finger of scorn at us?

The Greensboro Daily News looks at lynching statistics by ten-year periods, using Tuskegee records as authority. The number of lynchings in the last ten years is found to be as follows:

1927—16	1922—57
1926—30	1921—64
1925—17	1920—61
1924—16	1919—83
1923—33	1918—64

Commenting, The Daily News says that "back of 1918 the number increases irregularly to 100 in 1908, to 115 in 1900, to 200 in 1893. Over the long period from 1882 to the present the curve is downward. Within the ten-year period above it is obviously and sharply downward. Nineteen twenty-six is the exception, with its total of 30, partly explained by eight lynchings in Florida and seven in Texas, both of which are far above normal for these States. The high figure in Florida is generally attributed to unsettled conditions in

the boom days, and the high figure in Texas is probably due to oil booms and the confusion they always cause. But the ten-year period shows the trend. It is unquestionably downward."

Further:

The past year shows Mississippi with the worst record. That is normal. Seven lynchings there are more than twice as many as in any other State. Arkansas is credited with three, Tennessee with two, and Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas, with one each. That means that of the distinctly Southern States Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama and Oklahoma had none. Of these last North Carolina has had none since 1921, Oklahoma none since 1923 and Alabama none since 1925.

Over a ten-year period, 1918-1927, inclusive, the Southern States stand in this order, The Daily News finds:

Georgia, 81; Mississippi, 75; Texas, 63; Florida, 49; Arkansas, 35; Louisiana, 27; Alabama, 23; North Carolina and South Carolina, 16 each; Tennessee, 12; Kentucky, Oklahoma and Virginia, six each.

Or to extend the summary over the long period back to 1882, the number of lynchings in each Southern State is as follows:

Mississippi, 522; Georgia, 503; Texas, 469; Louisiana, 376; Alabama, 340; Arkansas, 291; Florida, 256; Tennessee, 241; Kentucky, 212; South Carolina, 163; Oklahoma, 161; Virginia, 102; North Carolina, 91.

The North Carolina newspaper concludes by observing that "in essential respects the long period, the ten-year period and the last year's record are in agreement. But it is worth noting that some of the Far South States, notably Alabama and Georgia, have improved notably. In Georgia, for instance, the average number murdered by mobs in the five-year period of 1918-1922 was 14. But in the succeeding five-year period, 1923-1927, the average per year was two. Nobody with any knowledge of the facts holds that improvement like that is merely chance. It is caused in Georgia, as it has been caused in other States, by those who were determined to decrease mob murders."

RICHMOND (VA) TIMES-DISPA.
December 23, 1927

LYNCHING ON DECREASE

Tuskegee Institute Head so Informs President at White House.

[By Associated Press.]

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—Lynching is on the decrease in the South, Robert R. Moton, principal of the Tuskegee Institute, told President Coolidge today during a call at the White House.

The Negro educator said he inquired specifically into the situation regarding lynching and mob violence and that he was able to report that, on the basis of present indications, the number of lynchings for this year would be substantially below those for 1926.

Mr. Coolidge also received a report on the hospital located at the institute which some time ago was placed entirely under the jurisdiction of a Negro personnel. Moton declared that the hospital was showing fine progress.

DANVILLE KY., MESSENGER
Monday, Jan. 2, 1928

LYNCHINGS

Editor Daily Messenger:

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, 88 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. Sixty-ersons, 15 whites and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape 1; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct 1; charge not reported 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows. Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas 1.

Yours very truly,
R. R. MORTON,
Principal, Tuskegee Institute.

EBANON, KY., ENTERPRISE
Friday, Jan. 13, 1928

Lynchings In 1927.

R. R. Morton, principal of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, Alabama, furnishes the following figures:

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern States. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 whites and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were—murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the murder in each State are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 7; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

All the 1927 victims were Negroes. Twelve were taken from the hands of the law by violence. Officers of the law prevented lynching in 42 instances, eight in the northern states and 34 in the south.

The number of lynchings by states: Mississippi, 7; Arkansas, 3; Tennessee, 2; Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas, one each.

Dalton, Ga., Citizen

DEC 29 1927

Isn't This Record Worth While?

Unless something happens between now and the end of the present week, Georgia is going to enter the good year 1928 without a lynching blemish.

And isn't that something of which to be proud?

We have had within the state some very bad crimes, but thanks to the vigilance of the courts and the officers of the law there has been no lynching violence.

In our neighboring county of Murray a very atrocious crime was committeed in the early part of the year, but the people restrained themselves, and the case is now being worked out in an orderly, legal way.

In various parts of the state some very serious crimes have been committeed, but at no time has the mob gained the ascendancy, and we feel that it will not in the future if the courts are as vigilant as they should be.

Speedy justice is the answer to the mob.

Georgia with no lynching for a year sounds good to the law-abiding elements of the state.

It should be repeated again and again.

Durham N.C. Sun
JAN 1 -1928

New Low Lynching Record Established

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Dec. 31.—(INS) The United States established a new low record for lynching in the year just closed. A special report issued tonight by Tuskegee Institute records sixteen lynchings during the year—one less than the 1925 record. Lynchings in 1926 numbered 30.

WICHITA FALLS TEX. RECORD
JANUARY 5, 1928

Lynchings For the Dead Year

Tuskegee

THERE were 31 lynchings in the United States in the year 1926; there were 31 in 1927. Mississippi led with seven. Lynching is a popular sport in Mississippi. Mob lynched three in [illegible] and Arkansas, two in Florida and one each on the Kentucky-Virginia border, Louisiana, Missouri, North Carolina, Texas and California.

All but two of the victims were negroes. It appears that the ancient refined custom of stake burnings has been relegated to the dismal field of oblivion. There was a time under southern skies when the stake was as popular as the rope. Civilization is on its way.

Lynchings-1927
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan.- Dec.

2616

Missoula, Mont., Sentinel
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 4, 1928

A BETTER LYNCHING RECORD.

Robert R. Moton, principal of the Tuskegee school for negroes, reports that the lynching record of 1927 was less shameful than that of 1926. Last year sixteen persons, all negroes, were lynched. This is fourteen less than the record for 1926, which was one of the worst years of recent record. It was one less than the seventeen lynchings recorded for 1925 and exactly the same as the number charged against 1924. It is, however, seventeen less than the thirty-three for which 1923 was blamed.

So the record of 1927 is at least fairly good. More encouraging is the fact that there were forty-two instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, thirty-four in southern states, and eight in northern states. Mr. Moton does not add that leaders of mobs are now serving penitentiary sentences in several southern states, notably in Georgia, where there seems to be a determination to abolish Judge Lynch and his summary court. It is to be noted that neither Georgia nor Florida, also active against lynchers, had this sort of crime charged against it during the year. Mississippi, one of the most backward American commonwealths, leads the shameful record with seven lynchings. Arkansas is next with three, Tennessee had two and Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri, and Texas had one each.

Probably it is too much to hope that 1928 will be the first year without a lynching anywhere in this country, but, we believe, such a year will come to pass eventually. We believe this for the reason that the country is becoming conscious of lynchings as a serious crime and also because the southern states are learning that thousands of needed laborers have emigrated on account of fear of lynch law. The reform we anticipate will come about, we think, as most reforms do, through a combination of moral sense and economic expediency.

SAVANNAH (GEORGIA) NEWS
December 30, 1927

THE LYNCHING SITUATION

For a good many years the Tuskegee Institute, a negro college of national prestige, has each year accumulated and toward the end of the year promulgated the figures which tell the record of lynchings in the country. Especial reference in these figures has seemed always to fall upon the statistics for the Southern states and more particularly for the number of negroes lynched. The figures for 1927 have been sent out by Principal Moton of the Tuskegee institution and were noted a few days ago by the Morning News. They show that there have been sixteen persons lynched the past year, seventeen fewer than in 1926. The reduction to less than half the number of the previous year is a gratifying feature of the report, and some other recent years prior to last year had almost as good a record.

An equally gratifying feature of the report also is that there were forty-two instances in which officers of the law prevented evidently threatened lynchings and of the forty-two instances of this sort thirty-four of them were in Southern states. In these cases sixty-eight persons, fifty-three of them negroes, are believed to have been saved from mobs and allowed to claim their legal rights in court. Still another feature of the report in which Georgia is especially interested is that while seven Southern states had lynchings charged against them, this state was not in the list. With a year clear of lynchings in Georgia; with a lowering by half of the number of such violent demonstrations, there is hope as the new year opens. Now for the utter cessation of the flogging business and there will be further and steadier progress toward lawfulness and the state of order in which prosperity in many lines can find conditions for vigorous and uninterrupted growth.

Bowling Green, Ky., Times-Journal
Monday, Jan. 2, 1928

Lynching Statistics

The following statistics, given today by Tuskegee Institute of Alabama regarding lynching in America during 1927 are interesting, especially to the law-abider, who notices with a degree of satisfaction that the "Judge Lynch" law has decreased in a number of states. However, Kentucky, with an unstained record in 1926, had one lynching during the past year.

The statistics follow:

There were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from deaths at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississipi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

Lexington Ky Herald
JANUARY 2, 1928

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Communications on timely topics gladly received and published. Please be brief.

LYNCHINGS

Editor, Lexington Herald:

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 whites and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas 1.

Yours very truly,
R. R. MORTON,
Principal, Tuskegee Institute

COLUMBUS (GEORGIA) SUN
January 1, 1928

SIXTEEN LYNCHED DURING PAST YEAR

Tuskegee Figures Show Fourteen Decrease. Forty-Two Prevented By Officers of Law, 34 In South.

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Dec. 31.—Sixteen persons were lynched in 1927 as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, one less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were— murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1 charge not reported 1

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas 1.

removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, seven; attempted murder, two; statutory offense, two; attempted statutory offense, three; improper conduct, one; charge not reported, one.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows:

Arkansas, three; Kentucky, one; Louisiana, one; Mississippi, seven; Missouri, one; Tennessee, two; Texas, one.

UNION CITY TENN. MESSENGER (wkly)
JANUARY 6, 1928

LYNCHING IN THE SOUTH

According to records for 1927 there were thirteen lynchings and all of these were in the South. Tennessee had two for her share which gave this state a high proportion. Every time an incident of this kind happens great stock is taken of it in the North where, in some sections, the South is referred to as a benighted and uncivilized place. A record of thirteen lynchings is a blight on the fair name of the South and Tennessee's two place a stain on the name of the Volunteer state which it will require some time to remove. The best way to remove this stain is for the citizens of this state to see that the year 1928 passes without a single crime of this kind being recorded. It is in the power of law abiding citizens to prevent such and the most humble citizen has his part in preventing lynchings.

lynchings for this year would be substantially below those for 1926.

Mr. Coolidge also received a report on the hospital located at the institute which sometime ago was placed entirely under the jurisdiction of a negro personnel. Moton declared that the hospital was showing fine progress.

Miami Fla. News
JAN 1 - 1928

New Low Record For Lynchings, 16, Set In 1927

Florida Has Clean Slate; All of Victims Were Negroes

(By United Press)

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Dec. 31.—The United States established a new low record for lynchings in the year just closed.

A special report issued tonight by Tuskegee Institute records 16 lynchings during the year—one less than the previous low record of 1925.

All the 1927 victims were negroes. Twelve were taken from the hands of the law by violence. Lynchings in 1926 numbered 30.

Officers of the law prevented lynchings in 42 instances, the report added. Eight of these instances were in northern states and 34 in the south.

The number of lynchings by states: Mississippi, 7; Arkansas, 3; Tennessee, 2; Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas, one each.

Officers of the law prevented lynchings in forty-two instances, the report added. Eight of these instances were in Northern states and thirty-four in the Southern. The number of lynchings by states follows:

Mississippi, 7; Arkansas, 3; Tennessee, 2; Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas, 1 each.

HERRIN ILL NEWS (wkly)
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 4, 1928.

FEWER LYNCHINGS IN AMERICA LAST YEAR

Principal Robert M. Moton of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute in Alabama supplies the following conerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research. He finds there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were —murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

OWENSBORO, KY., INQUIRER
JANUARY 2, 1928

LYNCHINGS IN U. S. DECREASE

New Low Records Established For 1927

TUSKEGEE, Ala., January 2.—(INS)—The United States established a new low record for lynchings in the year just closed.

A special report issued tonight by the Tuskegee Institute records 16 lynchings during the year—one less than the previous low record of 1925.

All the 1927 victims were negroes. Twelve were taken from the hands of the law by violence.

Lynchings in 1926 numbered thirty.

Officers of the law prevented lynchings in 42 instances, the report added. Eight of these instances were in Northern states and 34 in the southern.

The number of lynchings by states:

Mississippi 7; Arkansas 3; Tennessee 2; Kentucky, Ala., Missouri and Texas one each.

MEMPHIS TENN. EVNG. COMML. APPEAL
JANUARY 10, 1928

Press Comment

THIS "16" SHOULD BE REDUCED TO "0"

(Birmingham News.)

Sixteen lynchings in the United States of America for the year 1927 is a bad record.

Its only redeeming feature is that it isn't as bad as it might have been—indeed, isn't as bad as it has been in rather recent years.

But there is no denying the fact that this record is still hideously bad—appallingly blighting. In each of these 16 lynching cases human society in this country as well as a human being was lynched.

The law that is supposed to protect this human society was lynched.

In citizens supposedly entitled to this country's people were lynched.

In the decreasing frequency of this atrocious crime may be found some satisfaction.

But the victory of law over mob violence, of civilization over bloodlust, will not be definitely won till this "16" of the year 1927 is reduced to "0."

Spokane, Wash., Spokesman-Review
JANUARY 1, 1928

FEWER LYNCHINGS IN 1927

Total of 17 Is 14 Less Than in 1926—All Killed Were Negroes.

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala., Dec. 31.—Concerning lynchings for the last year, as compiled by Tuskegee institute in the department of records and research, it is found there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than for 1926, one less than for 1925, the same number as for 1924 and 17 less than for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were

GREENSBORO (N. C.) RECORD
December 22, 1927

LYNCHINGS IN SOUTH DECREASE

Robert R. Moton, President of Tuskegee, So Tells President Coolidge

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—(AP)—Lynching is on the decrease in the south, Robert R. Moton, principal of the Tuskegee institute, told President Coolidge today during a call at the White House.

The negro educator said the president inquired specifically into the situation regarding lynching and mob violence and that he was able to report that on the basis of present indications, the number of

TEXARKANA TEX. TRIBUNE
JANUARY 4, 1928

FEWER LYNCHINGS.

Good for America, fine for this country, we are getting more and more a law-abiding nation, just as it should be.

The United States established a new low record for lynchings in the year just closed.

A special report issued by the Tuskegee Institute records sixteen lynchings during the year, one less than the previous low record of 1925.

All of the 1927 victims were negroes. Twelve were taken from the hands of the law by violence.

Lynchings-1927
Reports on. Sent Press.

Jan.-Dec.

2617

Fall City Tribune
JANUARY 4, 1928

WORLD GROWS BETTER

That the world is growing better is believed by the board of trustees of Tuskegee Institute, and the belief is borne out by the findings relative to lynching in the south, which have been compiled by the institute's Department of Records and Research. It is considered that the decided falling-off in the number of these atrocities is an indication of the growth of a spirit favoring a respect for law and its processes on the part of the populace of the south, and any increase in respect for law is a decided moral growth in a community.

In 1927, according to the report of the board, there were 16 lynchings in the south, which is 14 lass than in the year 1926, when there were 30; 1 less than the number 17 for 1925; the same number as in 1924; and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of those lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six being taken from pails and six from offices of the law outside the jails. Four of the persons were burned to death. Two were put to death, and their bodies afterwards burned.

The report shows, as stated, 16 lynchings; and it shows, also, that there were 42 cases where officers of the law prevented lynchings, eight of these being in northern states. In 24 of the 42 cases, the prisoners were removed, or the number of guards increased, or other precautions taken. In the remaining 18 cases, armed force was used to repel the mobs. In some of these 42 cases, more than one accused person was concerned, which accounts for the fact that 68 persons, of whom 15 were white and 53 were negroes, were thus saved from mob violence.

All of the sixteen persons lynched were negroes, their offenses charged being murder, 7; attempt murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; and charge not reported, 1.

The states in which the lynchings of 1927 occurred, and the number in each, were Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1 Louisiana, 1; Miss sippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; and Texas, 1.

DALLAS, TEX. [illegible] NEWS
JANUARY 7, 1928

SAYS LYNCHINGS IN 1927 TOTALLED 21

New York, Jan. 7—A decrease in the number of lynchings from 34 in the year 1926 to 21 in the year 1927 is reported by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 69 Fifth Avenue.

Mississippi leads with seven of lynching mobs, Tennessee and Arkansas eacs having a record of 3 lynchings, Florida two, and the following States each having had one: Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri, North Carolina, Texas and California.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People differs from Tuskegee in including as lynchings the beating to death by prisoners in a Los Angeles jail of a white man resembling the kidnapper, William Hickman; the shooting to death by a posse of Joseph Upchurch in Paris, Tennessee; and the shooting by a posse of Thomas Bradshaw near Bailey, North Carolina.

Besides the white prisoner beaten to death in Los Angeles jail, one other white man, Berry Allen, is reported to have been seized by a mob at Mayo, Florida, and thrown into the Suwanee River while being conveyed to a hospital after a fight with a range rider and deputy sheriff.

Of the victims lynched, four were burned alive and the bodies of two others were publicly burned after death. Three of the mob victims were taken from peace officers and jails in Mississippi and one each in Arkansas, Florida, Missouri, Louisiana, Tennessee and Texas. Of the 21 victims only 4 were accused of attack upon a white woman.

Fremont Tribune
JANUARY 4, 1928

Lynching Record

Tuskegee Institute, Alabama, Jan. 4—Editor Tribune: I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, one less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were —murder 7, attempted murder 2, rape 2, attempted rape 3, improper conduct 1, charge not reported 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas 3, Kentucky 1, Louisiana 1, Mississippi 7, Missouri 1, Tennesee 2, Texas 1.

Yours very truly,
R. R. Moton,

CARLISLE, KY., MERCURY.
JANUARY 5, 1928

LYNCHINGS FALL OFF DURING 1927

Sixteen Meet Violent Deaths For Crimes Committed In Past Year Decrease of Fourteen

Statistics compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research show that only sixteen persons were lynched during the year 1927, a decrease of fourteen from the number 30 for 1926. The report shows that the number of lynchings were one less than the 17 for 1925, the same number 16 for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the number were burned to death while two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were —murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

Evening Tribune
1-2-28

Lynching Report From Tuskegee Institute For 1927

There were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern States. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of the mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

ASHEBORO (TENN.) STAR
JANUARY 5, 1928

LYNCHINGS DECREASED IN 1927

A survey made by an association in New York shows a decrease in the number of lynchings in 1927 as compared with the previous year. In 1926 there were 34 lynchings in the United States; in 1927 only 21.

Seven of the persons were lynched in Mississippi, in 1927, the report shows; three in Tennessee, three in Arkansas, two in Florida, one on the Kentucky - Virginia border, and one each in Louisiana, Missouri, North Carolina, Texas and California. All but two of the victims were negroes.

IOLA, KAS., REGISTER
JANUARY 4, 1928

According to the records kept at Tuskegee Institute there were 16 [illegible] United States during 1927, the victims being negroes. That is 16 more than there ought to have been, and yet it is 14 fewer than there were in 1926, and that is encouraging. Another encouraging fact set forth in this Tuskegee report is that there were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, 68 persons thus being saved from death at the hands of mobs. Thirty-four of these cases of rescuing prisoners from mobs were in the southern States, and that is evidence of a growing feeling of respect for law in that section which is highly commendable.

DURANGO, COLO., DEMOCRAT
JANUARY 2, 1928

14 LESS LYNCHINGS REPORTED IN 1927, SHOWN BY RECORDS

Tuskegee, Ala., Dec. 31.—Robert R. Morton, principal of the Tuskegee Normal & Industrial Institute for Negroes, which was founded by the late Booker T. Washington, gave out the following data, Saturday, relative to the number of lynchings throughout the United States in 1927 as compared with other years, as follows:

There were sixteen persons lynched in 1927. This is fourteen less than the number thirty for 1926; one less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In [illegible] the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were—murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

Russellville Ala Times
JANUARY 5, 1928

ONLY 16 ARE MOB VICTIMS

STATE OF ALABAMA ESCAPES ANY LYNCHINGS FOR PAST YEAR

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Dec. 31.—Sixteen persons, all negroes, were lynched during 1927, it was announced today by Tuskegee Institute on the basis of records compiled by its department of records and research. This compared with 30 in the previous years, 17 in 1925, 16 in 1924 and 33 in 1923.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each were: Mississippi 7; Arkansas 3; Tennessee 2; Kentucky 1; Louisiana 1; Missouri 1; Texas 1.

Four of the victims were burned to death, the report said, and the bodies of two were burned after they had been put to death. Offenses with which they were charged included murder, assault, attempted assault and improper conduct.

The report said that there were 42 instances in which officers prevented lynching, 34 in Southern states and 8 in Northern states.

SALINA, KAS., UNION
JANUARY 5, 1928

[illegible]TTER RECORD FOR LYNCHINGS

[illegible]gee Institute reports that [illegible] there were 16 [illegible]nched in the U. S. In 1926 there were 30, in 19[illegible] there were 17, and 1924 the same as 1927, 16. In 1923 there were 33 lynchings. Of the 16 cases in 1927, 12 of the victims were taken from jail or from officers outside. Four of them were burned to death. In 42 cases of attempted lynching the officers prevented the act, either by removal of the prisoner, or by armed resistance. Some of these involved more than one person, so that a total of 15 whites and 53 negroes were saved from mob violence. All of the victims of lynching in 1927 were negroes. Mississippi had 7 cases, Arkansas 3, Tennessee, 2, and Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas 1 each. Hardly an enviable record yet.

SYLACAUGA, ALA., ADVANCE
JANUARY 5, 1928

NO LYNCHINGS IN THIS STATE PAST YEAR

Only 16 Instances Of Mob Killing Recorded In United States

Tuskegee, Ala., Jan. 5.—Sixteen persons, all negroes, were lynched during 1927, according to the annual lynching report made by Tuskegee Institute, here tonight. There were no lynchings in Alabama.

This compares with 30 in the year previous, 17 in 1925, 16 in 1924 and 33 in 1923.

The states in which lynchings occurred in 1927 were Mississippi, 7; Arkansas, 3; Tennessee, 2; Kentucky, 1; Lousiana, 1. Missouri, 1, and Texas one.

Four of the victims were burned to death, the report said, and the bodies of two were burned after they were put to death.

Offenses with which they were charged included murder, assault, attempted assault and improper conduct.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs, the report says.

CLARKSVILLE, TENN., LEAF-CHRON.
JANUARY 6, 1928

SIXTEEN VICTIMS OF MOBS IN 1927

NUMBER FOURTEEN LESS THAN IN 1926, INSTITUTE FIGURES DISCLOSE.

A total of sixteen persons were lynched throughout the United States during the year 1927, according to a report by Robert R. Moton, principal of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute in Alabama. The figures were compiled in the department of records and research of the Tuskegee Institute.

This number is fourteen less than the number for 1926 and one less than the lynching victims of 1925. In 1924 there were sixteen and in 1923 there were thirty-three. Twelve of the persons lynched this year were taken from the hands of the law, six having been taken from the jails and six from officers outside of the jails. Four of these persons were burned to death and two were put to death and their bodies burned.

There were forty-two instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and thirty-four in southern states. In twenty-four of these cases the prisoners were removed, or the guard augmented, or other precaution taken. In eighteen of the other instances, armed forces were used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, fifteen white and fifty-three negroes, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, seven; attempted murder, two; rape, two; attempted rape, three; improper conduct, one; charge not reported, one.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas 3, Kentucky 1, Louisiana 1, Mississippi 7, Missouri 1, Tennessee 2 and Texas 1.

MURFREESBORO, TENN., HOME JNL.
JANUARY 3, 1928

Decrease in Lynchings Last Year; Mississippi Leads States With 7

The following report is issued by the Tuskegee Institute on lynchings during the past year:

There were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30, for 1926, 1 less than the number 17, for 1925, the same number 16, as for 1924, and 17 less than the number 33, for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death; 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

Lynchings - 1927
Reports on So. + Dess.

Jan. - Dec.

2618

ATLANTA (GEORGIA) JOURNAL
January 2, 1928

Georgia's Good Record

ROBERT R. MOTON, principal of Tuskegee Institute, has given to the press of the nation the following communication:

Dear Editor:

"I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year, as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research:

"I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number (30) for 1926, 1 less than the number (17) for 1925, the same number (16) as for 1924 and 17 less than the number (33) for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death; two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

"There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings; 8 of these were in Northern States and 34 in Southern States. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs. All of the persons lynched were negroes.

"The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

"Yours very truly,
"R. R. MOTON, Principal."
"Tuskegee, Ala."

The statistics compiled by Tuskegee are credited generally throughout the nation as being accurate and informative. Careful checking of former statements in this regard have been found frankly fair and foundationed upon fact.

The figures are better than they used to be; we are making progress in getting away from the disgrace of lynching in this nation—especially here in the South.

We still, however, have a good ways to go!

It is gratifying to note that Georgia has a clean slate for 1927.

There were no lynching in the "Empire State of the South" last year—not one!

That's good!

Tampa Fla Times
JAN 2 - 1928

THIS IS BETTER.

The report of Robert R. Morton, president of the Tuskegee institute—the Booker Washington school—on the number of lynchings in 1927 is heartening to those who hold that mob justice is one of the most harmful things there can be. It shows the total number of lynchings for the year as 16, against 30 in 1926; 17 in 1925; 16 in 1924, and 33 in 1923.

Victims of 12 of the 1927 lynchings were taken from the hands of the law—six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the mob's prey were burned to death. Two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

Offenses charged against those lynched were—murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1. All those lynched were negroes.

The states contributing to this record and the number of lynchings in each are—Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

While these figures offer no encouragement that lynching is appreciably disappearing from the minds of men, since the number of lynchings for the just ended year is identical with that for 1924, though close to 50 per cent. less than for 1926, that the officials are showing much more tendency toward preventing lynchings is a hopeful sign. Such is clearly shown to be the case by the Morton report. It reveals that there were in 1927 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented, or other precautions were taken. In 18 other instances armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Florida is to be congratulated upon the fact that she is this time omitted from the list of states in which lynchings occurred. Last year's report was different. This state then headed the list of lynchings, with eight of them having been staged here. She was followed by Texas, with 7; Mississippi, 4; South Carolina, 3; Arkansas, 2; Georgia, Kentucky, New Mexico, Tennessee and Virginia, with 1 each.

There is no doubt that the changed condition here is due in large part to the more certain and prompt manner in which the law has functoned. The improvement in this respect has been marked, though there still are many unseemly delays in the carrying out of the sentences of the courts. It is to be hoped that there will be continued improvement here. If there is it can be assumed that lynching will come to be an unknown occurrence in Florida.

Sheriffs and other officers having prisoners in custody also evinced during 1927 a more noticeable disposition to protect them than has been apparent in some time. Our own sheriff and our own county are among those which have to their credit having fought back mobs that stormed the jail, intent upon lynching. That forms a lamentable chapter in our record. Five persons were killed by shots fired in order to disperse the mobs—some of them entirely innocent persons, who were several block distant from the scene of activity. It is bad that these had to die, almost unspeakably bad. Yet it is decidedly good that it was demonstrated that so far as we are locally concerned the determination is that those accused or convicted of crime shall only be punished in conformity with the law, no matter how desperate may be the means necessary to be employed for their protection.

One cannot help thinking that it will be some time before there will again be here any attempt to storm the jail and take persons from it for the purpose of lynching.

As encouraging as the Florida record and the local record touching lynchings in 1927 are there is one feature of the local record which seriously thinking people cannot but view with most serious alarm. This is the fact that a number of those who were arrested charged with being participants in the mob which caused our bloody chapter and caused the deaths of five men who would perhaps be living today but for what that mob brought on, were allowed to plead guilty to some minor offense and allowed to go upon the payment of fines so out of proportion to what they were guilty of, if guilty of anything, as not to be properly referred to even as nominal ones.

On the face of the 1927 record we are hopeful for the disappearance of lynchings from Florida. There is no use to attempt to deny, however, that such a hope is materially reduced when it is considered how lightly members of a mob were let to get off in the instance mentioned.

FAYETTEVILLE, TENN., NEWS
Thursday, Jan. 5, 1928

LYNCHING OF 1927

Lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. There were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926. One less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924, and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death. Two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

BUTLER, MO., DEMOCRAT
JANUARY 5, 1928

Lynchings For 1927

The following is the report on lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. There were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law,

6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

ST. LOUIS, MO., ARGUS
JANUARY 6, 1928

SIXTEEN LYNCHED IN 1927

Was Fourteen Less Than In 1926 and the Same Number in 1924. All Victims Were Negroes

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 4.—Sixteen persons were lynched in the United States in 1927, according to the Department of Records and Research of Tuskegee Institute. This was fourteen less than the number for 1926 one less than the number for 1925, the same number as for 1924 and seventeen less than the number for 1923.

Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death and two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were forty-two instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern states and thirty-four in Southern states. In twenty-four of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In eighteen other instances armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons—fifteen white and fifty-three Negroes—were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, seven; attempted murder, two; rape, two; attempted rape, three; improper conduct, one; charge not reported, one.

The states in which the lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, three; Kentucky, one; Louisiana, one; Mississippi, seven; Missouri, one; Tennessee, two; Texas, one.

SULPHUR SPRINGS TEX. NEWS TEL.
DECEMBER 30, 1927

LYNCHING IN THE UNITED STATES FOR YEAR 1927

(Compiled by Tuskee Institute.)

Sixteen persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 for 1924, and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923, 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails, 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, 8 of these in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers,68 persons, 15 white and 53 negroes, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offences charged were, murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas 3, Kentucky 1, Louisiana 1, Mississippi 7, Missouri 1, Tennessee 2, Texas 1.

Donaldsonville La Chu
12-31-27

Sixteen Lynchings In United States In 1927

The principal of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, a college for colored people, located at Tuskegee, Ala., has sent to the press a circular letter containing a brief summary of the lynchings in the United States during the year 1927. The letter reads as follows:

"I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Departments of Records and Research. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

"There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

"All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were—murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

"The states in which lynchings occured and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas 1."

BROOKFIELD MO. DEMOCRAT
JANUARY 5, 1928

LYNCHINGS IN THE YEAR 1927 WERE 16

The Report Says That Arkansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Tennessee Took Part

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee 2; Texas, 1. Yours very truly,

R. R. Moton, Prin.

EL RENO, OK., AMERICAN
JANUARY 5, 1928

LYNCHINGS DECREASE

A REDUCTION of 14 in the number of lynchings in the United States was made during the year of 1927 as compared with 1926, according to figures compiled by the department of records and research of Tuskegee Institute. Sixteen were lynched which was the same number as in 1924. Other interesting data revealed by the school's report follow:

Sixteen persons were lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924, and 17 less than the 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death. Two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were, Murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee 2; Texas, 1.

SULPHUR SPRINGS, TEX, ECHO.
JANUARY 6, 1928

LYNCHING IN THE UNITED STATES FOR YEAR 1927

(Compiled by Tuskee Institute.)

Sixteen persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 for 1924, and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923, 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails, 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, 8 of these in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers,68 persons, 15 white and 53 negroes, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offences charged were, murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

Lynchings-1927
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan-Dec.

2619

Rome, Ga., News-Tribune
JAN 21928

GEORGIA HAS A CLEAN SLATE AS TO LYNCHINGS IN 1927

The report of lynchings in the United States during the past year shows Georgia with a clean slate as far as this crime against government goes while the total for the country for the year was less than the year before. The report as compiled by Dr. Robert R. Morton, principal at Tuskegee institute, in Alabama, shows a total of 16 persons lynched during 1927.

All of these persons lynched were negroes. Seven of them were put to death in Mississippi, three in Arkansas, and two in Tennessee, while one each was lynched in Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas.

Georgia in 1926 had one lynching against it and the clean slate in 1927 is a welcome record.

There is a growing sentiment in Georgia and the entire country for that matter, to let the courts take their course. There is no better illustration of this than when in 1926 eleven men charged with murder in connection with the lynching of a negro were sentenced to the state penitentiary in varying terms ranging from one year to life imprisonment.

Mob law is without excuse; it is a deadening blow struck at the very foundation of the law the mob members believe has been outraged when they take it into their own hands.

It is noteworthy in the report made by Dr. Norton that in 42 instances mob law was prevented from prevailing by action of recognized authorities of the law. Of these 42 instances thirty-four were in the south and eight were in northern states.

SANDUSKY, O., JOURNAL
Jan. 4, 1928

FEWER CASES OF LYNCHING.

ACCORDING to figures compiled by the Tuskegee Institute, the year 1927 witnessed fewer lynchings than any preceding year of record, with one exception, and equaled that. During the year sixteen persons were put to death by mobs. This is fourteen less than in 1926, one less than in 1925, the same number as in 1924, and seventeen less than in 1923.

Twelve of those lynched were taken from the hands of the law by mobs, six from jails, and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four were burned to death.

Perhaps the most encouraging feature of the report for the year is the fact that there were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed, or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In eighteen other instances armed force was used to repel would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, fifteen of them white, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Not so many years ago, and especially in the southern states, officers of the law made little effort to protect negro prisoners from mobs. Times are changing.

Mississippi holds the unenviable 1927 record for lynchings, with a total of seven. Arkansas follows with three, Tennessee with two, and Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas report one each. Thus 41 out of the 48 states have a clean slate. We are glad that Ohio is one of them.

Columbus, Ga. Enquirer-Sun
JAN 21928

No Lynchings In Georgia In 1927—Now Let Justice Become Color Blind.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People today made public a survey showing a decrease in the number of lynchings from 34 in 1926 to 21 in 1927. All but two of the victims were Negroes.

The report did not reveal any lynchings in Georgia.—From an Associated Press dispatch, Dec. 29.

Laws that are made for the special privilege of one class of citizens or officers of the law who fail to protect the rights of any group of citizens, are both out of place in a modern democratic commonwealth.

Every thoughtful person knows that in Georgia the Negro charged with an offense is still usually given less consideration than the white man simiarly charged. With the black man before the bar, the eyes of justice often hypocritically squint. Yet the black man before the bar is a citizen until he has been proved guilty; and until he has been proved guilty—and even afterward in the prison camp, prison or reformatory—his rights as a human being should be rigidly respected. In Georgia, in the South, and in other sections, still too frequently, the rights of the Negro are either half-heartedly respected or else completely ignored.

Lynching used to be a frequent crime in Georgia. All too recently not a year passed without half a dozen or more cases in which mobs, almost invariably made up in major part of the most undesirable elements in a community, spent the force of their sadistic jungle passions upon some Negro accused, but not always correctly, of a grave offense. Always afterward there were a few good citizens to protest. Mostly, the average citizen soon buried his uncomfortable feeling of guilt and shame in forgetfulness.

We have moved away from that kind of lawlessness in Georgia. The record of no lynchings in 1927 is one of which every good Georgian, in view of the past, may with reason be generously proud. The next step for Georgians to take is to insure that when a prisoner approaches the bar, the scales of justice shall not be permitted to weigh his color.

Returned Legionnaire Compares Liberties Here and France

In the January issue of *Personality*, a monthly magazine, appears an excellent article about the legionnaire's recent visit to France which gives his reactions in a pithy and intelligent fashion. Two or three paragraphs are devoted to what he noticed about the quality of Liberty in France as compared to that in his own country. The writer's conclusion is summed up as follows:

The doughboy liked French liberty, both in the abstract and the practical application. Wherever he went three words met his eyes, carved on the facades of public buildings, stamped upon walls in big letters—*Liberte, Egalite, Fraternite.* He came to associate them with France. He learned, too, that the French people have a special passion for this liberty of theirs. He found them to be a political family of close ties where family opinion quickly rules. Accustomed to his own slow and cumbersome processes, he was astounded at the government's respect for what the people think. He saw the influence a Frenchman possessed in his country's affairs and thought of home, where the individual has almost no influence and can be heard only by long roundabout processes.

All this put him to thinking, says the writer. Having believed for a good many years that the Statue of Liberty in New York harbor stood for a simon pure article of American manufacture alone, the doughboy could not take in right away the idea that there might be another democracy in the world whose people enjoyed a brand of liberty a bit more practical than that in America:

Leaving these matters of theories, he found that the Frenchman's practical liberty was broader than anything he himself had ever known. With the single exception of military service he saw the Frenchman to be under no restraint. As for that liberty which finds expression in the corner cafe—the doughboy liked it. There he saw the Frenchman come after dinner with his wife and youngsters, his dog and his cane, to sit and talk, to read his paper and swap stories with his neighbors. And the doughboy thought that that was a pleasant form of liberty.

If similar impressions were general amongst the 15,000 legionnaires who went back to France last summer and returned to observe that the United States is hogtied with hundreds of laws and ordinances which interfere with the rights of the individual as conceived by Jefferson and his colleagues, we hope they will do what lies in their power to combat the Prussian *verbotenism* that has descended like a thick fog over the Statue of Liberty, almost completely shutting out that noble and exhilirating vision of freedom which inspired the writing of the Bill of Rights.

Savannah, Ga. NEWS
DEC 30 1927

THE LYNCHING SITUATION

For a good many years the Tuskegee Institute, a negro college of national prestige, has each year accumulated and toward the end of the year promulgated the figures which tell the record of lynchings in the country. Especial reference in these figures has seemed always to fall upon the statistics for the Southern states and more particularly for the number of negroes lynched. The figures for 1927 have been sent out by Principal Moton of the Tuskegee institution and were noted a few days ago by the Morning News. They show that there have been sixteen persons lynched the past year, seventeen fewer than in 1926. The reduction to less than half the number of the previous year is a gratifying feature of the report, and some other recent years prior to last year had almost as good a record.

An equally gratifying feature of the report also is that there were forty-two instances in which officers of the law prevented evidently threatened lynchings and of the forty-two instances of this sort thirty-four of them were in Southern states. In these cases sixty-eight persons, fifty-three of them negroes, are believed to have been saved from mobs and allowed to claim their legal rights in court. Still another feature of the report in which Georgia is especially interested is that while seven Southern states had lynchings charged against them, this state was not in the list. With a year clear of lynchings in Georgia; with a lowering by half of the number of such violent demonstrations, there is hope as the new year opens. Now for the utter cessation of the flogging business and there will be further and steadier progress toward lawfulness and the state of order in which prosperity in many lines can find conditions for vigorous and uninterrupted growth.

TAMPA, FLA., Tribune

JAN 1 1928

LYNCHINGS SHOW DECREASE IN 1927

16 Negroes Victims of Mobs Compared With 30 in 1926

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Dec. 31.—(A.P.)—Sixteen persons, all negroes, were lynched during 1927, it was announced today by Tuskegee institute on the basis of records compiled by its department of records and research. This compared with 30 in the previous year, 17 in 1925, 16 in 1924 and 33 in 1923.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each were listed as follows: Mississippi, 7; Arkansas, 3; Tennessee, 2; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1;

Four of the victims were burned to death, the report said, and the bodies of two were buried after they had been put to death. Offenses with which they were charged included murder, assault, attempted assault and improper conduct.

The report said that of those lynched, six were taken from jails and six seized from officers of the law outside jails. It added that there were 42 instances in which officers prevented lynchings, 34 in southern states and eight in northern states.

Augusta, Ga. HERALD

JAN 1 1928

NO LYNCHINGS IN GEORGIA DURING '27

TUSKEGEE, Ala.—(AP)—Sixteen persons, all negroes, were lynched during 1927, it was announced Saturday by Tuskegee Institute on the basis of records compiled by its department of records and research. This compared with 30 in the previous year, 17 in 1925, 16 in 1924, and 33 in 1923.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each were listed as follows: Mississippi, 7; Arkansas, 3; Tennessee, 2; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

ATLANTA, GA., Constitution

JAN 2 1928

GEORGIA OFF THE "BLACK LIST"

The department of records and research of Tuskegee institute has completed its annual survey as to lynchings in the United States during 1927. The record is most commendable in showing a steady decrease, and is illustrating the vigilance of officers in preventing mob violence. It is particularly gratifying to Georgia, for not one lynching occurred in this state from January 1, 1927, to this new year day—a record that it was hoped would be reached in 1926, but which was not made due to a lynching in the last half of the year.

At any rate while several of the other southern states have made unenviable records, especially Mississippi, whose lead in 1927 is most deplorable and regrettable, Georgia has at last been eliminated from the "black list," and it is hoped it has attained a position in this manner which it will always maintain.

In the entire country there were only 16 lynchings in 1927, which is 14 less than the number for 1926. Twelve of the victims were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of the jails.

The survey shows that there were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynching. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed, or the guards augmented, or other precautions taken. In 18 other cases armed forces were used to repel the mobs.

The states in which lynchings occurred, and the number in each state, are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

It is noticeable that, along with Georgia, there were no 1927 lynchings in either of the Carolinas or in Florida, or Alabama. That is, the south Atlantic seaboard states, or the southeast proper, made a record in 1927 so commendable in this respect that it is deserving of comment and general national knowledge. It illustrates that in this great section of the country there is developing a stronger feeling for the supremacy of law and order, and for the integrity of constituted authority. The press crusades against floggings, and other evidences of mob violence, and the courage of enforcement and court officials, along with a stronger public sentiment against mob violence, have been contributing factors toward this improved situation.

At this time leaders of public affairs in Mississippi are endeavoring to remedy the disgraceful mob-violence situation in that state, and it is hoped with success ahead of them.

There is no place for the mob any more than for the anarchist or the communist who conspires to tear down organized and legalized government. It is a hopeful sign that the lynching situation in the southeast was greatly improved in the year that has just closed.

AMERICUS, GA [illegible]

12-31-27

NO LYNCHINGS IN GEORGIA THIS YEAR

Sixteen Lynchings Occurred in the South in 1927, But None in Georgia.

Georgia has passed through a 12-month period with no lynchings, according to statistics given out by Tuskegee Industrial Institute, which for years has kept an accurate record of lynchings in the United States.

There were 16 persons lynched the past year, all in Southern states, as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas, one each; seven in Mississippi and two in Tennessee.

Other interesting facts given in the report are these:

There were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-Eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

there were 42 cases where officers of the law prevented lynchings, eight of these being in northern states. In 24 of the 42 cases, the prisoners were removed, or the number of guards increased, or other precautions taken. In the remaining 18 cases, armed force was used to repel the mobs. In some of these 42 cases, more than one accused person was concerned, which accounts for the fact that 68 persons, of whom 15 were white and 53 were negroes, were thus saved from mob violence.

All of the sixteen persons lynched were negroes, their offenses charged being murder, 7; attempt murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; and charge not reported, 1.

The states in which the lynchings of 1927 occurred, and the number in each, were Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; and Texas, 1.

FALLS CITY NEB NEWS
JANUARY 4, 1928

WORLD GROWS BETTER

That the world is growing better is believed by the board of trustees of Tuskegee Institute, and the belief is borne out by the findings relative to lynching in the south, which have been compiled by the institute's Department of Records and Research. It is considered that the decided falling-off in the number of these atrocitie is an indication of the growth of spirit favoring a respect for law and its processes on the part of the populace of the south, and any increase in respect for law is a decided moral growth in a community.

In 1927, according to the report of the board, there were 16 lynchings in the south, which is 14 lass than in the year 1926, when there were 30; 1 less than the number 17 for 1925; the same number as in 1924; and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of those lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six being taken from pails and six from offices of the law outside the jails. Four of the persons were burned to death. Two were put to death, and their bodies afterwards burned.

The report shows, as stated, 16 lynchings; and it shows, also, that

Lancaster, S. C., News

JAN 3 1928

TUSKEGEE PRESIDENT SENDS OUT LYNCHINGS

The following concerning lynchings for the past year has been compiled by Tuskegee Institute. There were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923; 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, two put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states.

In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repeal the would-be-lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charged not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississipi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

Lynchings-1927
Reports on, sent Press.

Jan.-Dec.
9620

CLARKSBURG, W. VA. TELEGRAM
Monday, January 2, 1928

The Lynching Record

TUSKEGEE NORMAL AND INDUSTRIAL INSTITUTE, the famous school for colored students in Alabama founded by the late BOOKER T. WASHINGTON, sends to the *Telegram*, by its principal, R. R. MOTON, its annual report on lynchings, to which it gives special attention in its department of statistics.

The report shows that sixteen persons were lynched during 1927, a gratifying reduction from the preceding year. This is fourteen less than the number, thirty, for 1926; one less than the number, seventeen, for 1925; the same number, sixteen, as for 1924 and seventeen less than the number, thirty-three, for 1923.

Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were forty-two instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and thirty-four in southern states. In twenty-four of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In eighteen other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, fifteen white and fifty-three Negroes, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. Th eoffenses charged were—murder, seven; attempted murder, two; rape, two; attempted rape, three; improper conduct, one; charge not reported, one.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, three; Kentucky, one; Louisiana, one; Mississippi, seven; Missouri, one; Tennessee, two; Texas, one.

This indicates that there is an increasing sense of responsibility on the part of law officers and a wider appreciation of the fact that it is far better for the law to take its course as against mob action, which always involves the doubt of right.

There is no excuse for lynch law.

ENTERPRISE
Mc Comb Miss
JAN 6 1928

MISSISSIPPI LEADS IN LYNCHING

MISSISSIPPI HAS MANY VIRTUES—many things for which she deserves praise. But like other states she has some demerits. . . . She leads the union in lynchings.

Perhaps there are those who would say that we should not chronicle such news. And yet reason dictates that truth should not be ignored. We point to this blot on the good name of Mississippi, not because we are unpatriotic, but because we realize that to correct an evil, the evil must be known.

We publish herewith a letter from R. R. Moton, president of Tuskegee Institute, the great school for the colored founded by Booker T. Washington. This letter relates the truth about lynchings in Mississippi and the south.

May the record of 1928 show Mississippi at the bottom and not at the top of this list:

Editor Enterprise,
McComb, Mississippi.
Dear Sir:

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1927, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1927 and 17 less than the number 33 for 19[illegible]

savage the mob spirit is and how often it can be invoked. The hopeful phase of the situation is that this kind of horror is decreasing, since recent sentiment is compelling officers of the law to resist mobs resolutely, where before there was much tacit approval of "lettin' 'em burn the nigger."

Some day civilization will progress to the point where, even in the most benighted of places, every member of a mob will be duly caught and tried either for murder or attempted murder. Some day the crime of lynching will be universally regarded as a curious relic of barbarism, as the once respectable ordeal-by-fire is now regarded

HOUSTON TEX. POST
JANUARY 1, 1928

Lynching Record Improves

Once more definite progress is being made in suppressing the lynching evil in the United States, statistics compiled and published by Tuskegee institute reveal.

The record for 1926 was discouraging. After showing a steady decline for several years, lynchings in that year increased sharply. It appeared for the time that the movement for doing away with mob violence was losing ground, and a return to the old conditions was in prospect.

The statistics for 1927, however, indicate that the increase of lynchings in 1926 was but a temporary recession. During the past year the anti-lynching sentiment has made itself felt more effectively, and the march toward utter elimination of mob killing was resumed.

The sixteen lynchings of the year just closed were fourteen less than the thirty in the previous year, one less than the seventeen in 1925, the same as the number in 1924, and seventeen less than the thirty-three in 1923. If this ratio of decrease can be continued, in a few years this crime will have disappeared entirely from the country.

In his address to congress in December President Coolidge suggested Federal anti-lynching legislation, but with the evil so definitely on the decline, as Tuskegee's figures show, it is not likely that congress will give serious attention to the recommendation. Had there been a bad showing in 1927, it is not improbable that congress would have been aroused, and some legislation distinctly distasteful to the supporters of the doctrine of States rights enacted. By suppression of lynching locally, Federal intervention has perhaps been forestalled again.

Consideration of the improvement in the lynching record is not complete without an expression of commendation to officers of the law who foil mobs. In the year passed, brave, conscientious officers again played a very important part in keeping down the number of mob murders. In forty-two instances, officers successfully protected their prisoners and prevented lynchings. In eighteen instances it was necessary to use armed force.

What the action of these officers amounted to is better realized when it is discovered that they saved the lives of sixty-five persons, fifteen of them white. Suppose these sixty-five who were saved had been added to the sixteen who were done to death. That would have been eighty people slain by maniacal mobs in one year. What a ghastly and humiliating record that would have been for the Nation that poses as the most enlightened in the world. Could the rest of the world have been blamed had it pointed the finger of scorn at us?

WHEELING, W. VA. INTEL
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31,

A BIG IMPROVEMENT

Statistics compiled by Tuskegee Institute show a big improvement in the lynching record of the United States for the present year. There were sixteen persons, all negroes, murdered by mobs during 1927. This is fourteen less than the record for 1926 and equals that of 1924, the best previous year. Twelve were taken from the hands of the law. Four were burned to death, and two were killed and then burned.

All these outrages were perpetrated in Southern States. Mississippi had seven, Arkansas three, Tennessee two, and Texas, Louisiana, Kentucky and Missouri each one. Due to the recent anti-lynch laws and more civilized public sentiment in these parts, officers of the law prevented forty-two mob murders, either by removal of the prisoner or armed resistence. The lives of sixty-eight persons, fifteen whites and fifty-three negroes, were thus saved.

In spite of this considerable improvement, lynching is still a national disgrace. It would be a disgrace if only one life were taken by a cowardly, blood-thirsty mob. The fact that, even this year, six were burned and fifty-eight efforts were made to cheat the law shows how

GREENVILLE, O., TRIBUNE
Jan. 4, 1928

LYNCHINGS FALL OFF IN 1927

16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were—murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

...ontgomery, Ala., Advertiser

JAN 31 1928

AN IMPROVED LYNCHING RECORD

Dr. Robert R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Institute, sends the press the annual report on lynchings as compiled by the Department of Records and Research at Tuskegee.

Naturally in examining this report we hastened to see what the cold figures showed for Alabama. Happily, and not at all to our surpdise, it is found that Alabama's record for the last 12 months is again clean. We had no lynching in this State in 1927. We have had none since 1925, we believe. And what is equally gratifying is that there were no lynchings in either of the Carolinas, nor in Georgia, nor in Virginia—all Southern States.

The record for the country is very much better than for 1926, though no better than for 1925.

It appears from the Tuskegee compilation that there weer 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 frpm officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern States and 34 in Southern States. "In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken." In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs."

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were—murder 7, attempted murder 2, rape 4, attempted rape 3, improper conduct 1, charge not reported 1.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas 3, Kentucky 1, Louisiana 1, Mississippi 7, Missouri 7, Tennessee 2, Texas 1.

Southern newspaper editors are puzzled by the fact that the statistics of Tuskegee Institute and of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People are not in agreement. Tuskegee places the number of lynchings at 16 the National Association at 21. The Macon Telegraph and The Greensboro Daily News are curious to know the explanation of the discrepancy. For itself, The Advertiser prefers to accept Tuskegee's statistics, not because they are more favorable, but because the National Association is a propaganda society and as such is more militant than Tuskegee. Tuskegee's Department of Research seeks only information, the National Association is eager also to draw conclusions and make a point. We have always found the Tuskegee records to be reliable.

Special interest attaches to Georgia's clean record because it is unprecedented. The Georgia newspapers are elated over the fine showing of their State. The Columbus Enquirer-Sun, The Macon Telegraph and The Atlanta Constitution and others unite in celebrating.

Says The Telegraph:

> No matter what the difference is, neither agency was able to include Georgia among those States whose people had given themselves over to mob violence. Statistics do not run as far back as the days of Gen. Oglethorpe, but it is perhaps true that 1927 was the first year since the early days of the Georgia colony when there was no mob violence. The achievement is all the more significant when it is considered that during the year there was at least one case that would have certainly, in other days, provoked a lynching. That was the case in Jasper County when a negro assaulted a white woman. Not only were the few hoodlums who threatened violence promptly warned that to attempt it would mean trouble, but the feeling that emerged from that crime was one of friendliness for the responsible negroes of the community and the desire to protect them from that blind racial ill-feeling that attends such crimes and lynchings.

The Constitution is happy to report that "Georgia has at last been eliminated from the 'black list,' and it is hoped it has attained a position in this manner which it will always maintain."

The Houston Post-Dispatch thinks that the steady improvement in the lynching situation makes it unlikely that Congress will enact a Federal anti-lynching law. The Post-Dispatch in its editorial also pays special tribute to those officers of the law in the South who have done so much to check the mob spirit.

Officers of the law are said to have saved the lives of 68 persons, 15 of them white, in 1927. Says The Post-Dispatch:

> Suppose these sixty-five who were saved had been added to the sixteen who were done to death. That would have been eighty people slain by maniacal mobs in one year. What a ghastly and humiliating record that would have been for the Nation that poses as the most enlightened in the world. Could the rest of the world have been blamed had it pointed the finger of scorn at us?

The Greensboro Daily News looks at lynching statistics by ten-year periods, using Tuskegee records as authority. The number of lynchings in the last ten years is found to be as follows:

1927—16	1922—57
1926—30	1921—64
1925—17	1920—61
1924—16	1919—83
1923—33	1918—64

Commenting, The Daily News says that "back of 1918 the number increases irregularly to 100 in 1908, to 115 in 1900, to 200 in 1893. Over the long period from 1882 to the present the curve is downward. Within the ten-year period above it is obviously and sharply downward. Nineteen twenty-six is the exception, with its total of 30, partly explained by eight lynchings in Florida and seven in Texas, both of which are far above normal for these States. The high figure in Florida is generally attributed to unsettled conditions in the boom days, and the high figure in Texas is probably due to oil booms and the confusion they always cause. But the ten-year period shows the trend. It is unquestionably downward."

Further:

> The past year shows Mississippi with the worst record. That is normal. Seven lynchings there are more than twice as many as in any other State. Arkansas is credited with three, Tennessee with two, and Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas, with one each. That means that of the distinctly Southern States Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama and Oklahoma had none. Of these last North Carolina has had none since 1921, Oklahoma none since 1923 and Alabama none since 1925.

Over a ten-year period, 1918-1927, inclusive, the Southern States stand in this order, The Daily News finds:

Georgia, 81; Mississippi, 75; Texas, 63; Florida, 49; Arkansas, 35; Louisiana, 27; Alabama, 23; North Carolina and South Carolina, 13 each; Tennessee, 12; Kentucky, Oklahoma and Virginia, six each.

Or to extend the summary over the long period back to 1882, the number of lynchings in each Southern State is as follows:

Mississippi, 522; Georgia, 503; Texas, 469; Louisiana, 376; Alabama, 340; Arkansas, 291; Florida, 256; Tennessee, 241; Kentucky, 212; South Carolina, 163; Oklahoma, 161; Virginia, 102; North Carolina, 91.

The North Carolina newspaper concludes by observing that "in essential respects the long period, the ten-year period and the last year's record are in agreement. But it is worth noting that some of the Far South States, notably Alabama and Georgia, have improved notably. In Georgia, for instance, the average number murdered by mobs in the five-year period of 1918-1922 was 14. But in the succeeding five-year period, 1923-1927, the average per year was two. Nobody with any knowledge of the facts holds that improvement like that is merely chance. It is caused in Georgia, as it has been caused in other States, by those who were determined to decrease mob murders."

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., NEWS
JANUARY 1, 1928

16 Lynchings In 1927 Equal Low Record Of 1924

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Dec. 31.—(AP)—Sixteen persons, all negroes, were lynched during 1927, it was announced Saturday by Tuskegee Institute on the basis of records compiled by its department of records and research. This compared with 30 in the previous year, 17 in 1924, and 33 in 1923.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each were listed as follows: Mississippi, 7; Arkansas, 3; Tennessee, 2; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

Four of the victims were burned to death, the report said, and the bodies of two were burned after they had been put to death. Offenses with which they were charged included murder, assault, attempted assault and improper conduct.

The report said that of those lynched, six were taken from jails and six seized from officers of the law outside jails. It added that there were 42 instances in which officers prevented lynchings, 34 in Southern states and 8 in Northern states.

EAST PALESTINE O LEADER
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31.

Lynching Record

The Tuskegee Institute, located at Tuskegee, Alabama, makes a study of the cases of lynching in the United States, for the purpose of educating the people on this crime. The following figures, extending back to and including 1923, show a decrease in the number of lynchings in the country:

1923	23
1924	16
1925	17
1926	30
1927	16

Of the 16 lynchings this year, 12 were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers. Four of these were burned to death and two were put to death and their bodies burned. All lynched persons were Negroes. The states in which these acts took place were as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisana, 1; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2, and Texas, 1.

There were 42 instances of the prevention of lynching, eight of these being in northern states and 34 in southern states.

...three each in Tennessee and Arkansas, two in Florida and one each on the Kentucky-Virginia border, Louisiana, Missouri, North Carolina, Texas and California.

All but two of the victims were negroes.

BROWNSVILLE, TEX. HERALD
DECEMBER 30, 1927

Lynchings Decrease, Society Report Says

...The National Association for the Ad...

BEAUMONT, TEX. ENTERPRISE
DECEMBER 30 1927

DECREASE IN LYNCHING SEEN FOR YEAR 1927

By Associated Press.
NEW YORK, Dec. 29.—The National Association for Advancement of Colored People today made public a survey showing a decrease in the number of lynchings from 34 in 1926 to 21 in 1927.

Seven men were lynched in Mississippi, Mississippi, North Carolina and Oklahoma in Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Texas and California, but two of the victims were negroes.

Lynchings-1927
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan.-Dec.

2621

St. Petersburg, Fla., Times

JAN 1 1928

Sixteen Negroes Lynched in Year

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Dec. 31.—(AP) Sixteen persons, all negroes, were lynched during 1927, it was announced today by Tuskegee institute on the basis of records compiled by its department of records and research. This compared with 30 in the previous year, 17 in 1925, 16 in 1924 and 33 in 1923.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each were listed as follows: Mississippi, 7; Arkansas, 3; Tennessee, 2; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Missouri, 1; Texas 1.

Four of the victims were burned to death, the report said, and the bodies of two were burned after they had been put to death. Offenses with which they were charged included murder, assault, attempted assault and improper conduct.

ST. LOUIS, MO., ARGUS
DECEMBER 30, 1927

Lynchings Drop Coolidge Hears

Dr. R. R. Moton Holds Interview With President

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 28—Lynchings in the South are on the decrease, President Coolidge was informed on December 22 by Dr. R. R. Moton President of Tuskegee Institute, at Tuskegee, Alabama.

Following an interview with Mr. Coolidge, Dr. Moton stated orally the President inquired of him particularly as to the situation regarding lynchings and mob violence in the Southern States. He reported to the President he said, that statistics would show fewer lynchings in the South this year than last, but an increase over the number three years ago.

Dr. Moton said also that he reported to the President on conditions at the Government hospital for veterans at Tuskegee, which Mr. Coolidge dedicated. He said that the hospital is making satisfactory progress.

President Coolidge, in his recent annual message to Congress, discussed the progress of the Negro race and recommended the enactment of legislation to put a stop to lynchings.

CHANNING TEX NEWS
DECEMBER 30, 1927

TUSKEGEE INSTI. REPORTS SIXTEEN LYNCHINGS IN 1927

The department of records and research of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute for Negroes reports that there were 16 lynchings in the United States in 1927.

This is 14 less than the number for 1926, one less than the number for 1925, the same number as for 1924 and 17 less than the number for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were—murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2;

MACON, GA., News.

JAN 1 1928

Fewer Lynchings Reported in 1927

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Dec. 31. (INS) The United States established a new low record for lynchings in the year just closed.

A special report issued Saturday night by Tuskegee institute records sixteen lynchings during the year—one less than the previous low record of 1925.

All of the 1927 victims were negroes. Twelve were taken from the hands of the law by violence.

Lynchings in 1926 numbered 30.

Officers of the law prevented lynchings in 42 instances, the report added. Eight of these instances were in northern states and 34 in the south.

The number of lynchings by states: Mississippi, 7; Arkansas, 3; Tennessee, 2; Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas 1 each.

The first form of telegraphy was invented in 1836 by Charles Wheatstone, in England, who also invented the concertina.

Rock Hill, S. C., Herald

JAN 2 1928

Lynchings In U. S. Reduced To Half During Past Year

Tuskeegee, Ala., Jan. 2.—A report concerning lynchings occurring in the United States during 1928 has been completed by the Tuskeegee Normal and Industrial Institute for negroes located here.

The report is as follows:

There were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

Blackshear, Ga., Times

DEC 29 1927

16 LYNCHINGS DURING YEAR

All of Victims of Mob Violence Were Negroes; Georgia Has Clean Slate

There were 1 6persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 lses than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were—murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape 2; attemped rape, 3; improper conduct 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky 1; Louisina, 1; Missippi, 7; Misosuri 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

COLUMBUS, GA., Ledger

JAN 1 1928

Lynchings Show Big Decrease in South

Tuskegee, Ala., Dec. 31.—(A. P.)—Sixteen persons, all negroes, were lynched during 1927, it was announced today by Tuskegee Institute on the basis of records compiled by its department of records and research. This compared with 30 in the previous year, 17 in 1925, 16 in 1924 and 33 in 1923.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each were listed as follows:

Mississippi 7; Arkansas, 3; Tennessee 2; Kentucky 1; Louisiana 1; Missouri 1; Texas 1.

SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH, TELEGRAM
DECEMBER 23, 1927

Lynching Decreasing in South, Coolidge Learns

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22 (AP)—Lynching is on the decrease in the south, Robert P. Moton, principal of the Tuskegee institute, told President Coolidge today during a call at the White House.

Milton, Fla., Gazette

DEC 30 1927

No Lynchings in Florida During 1927, only 16 in the United States

The following report compiled by the Department of Records and Research of the Tuskegee Institute will be of interest to the people of Florida especially, showing as it does that while there were sixteen lynchings in the United States, there were none in Florida. The Report is as follows:

There were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16, as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 23 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were, murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas 1.

COLUMBUS, GA., Ledger

DEC 29 1927

NO LYNCHING REPORTED IN GEORGIA IN 1927

New York, Dec. 29.—(AP)—The National Association for the Advancement of colored people today made public a survey showing a decrease in the number of lynchings from 34 in 1926 to 21 in 1927. All but two of the victims were negroes.

The report did not reveal any lynchings in Georgia.

Birmingham, Ala., News

DEC 26 1927

CHURCHES TO ASK END OF LYNCHING

Council Requests People To Pray For Abolishment Of Mob Spirit

NEW YORK, Dec. 26. — —(AP)— Church people have been summoned by the Federal Council of Churches to penitence and prayer on Feb. 12 to free the nation from lynching and mob violence.

The summons which fixed that date for the observance of race relations Sunday was issued through the council's commission of race relations, of which Dr. George E. Haynes is secretary. Need for the call had been stressed by the commission on interracial cooperation.

"Lynching is a crime which leaves its stain upon us all," the call declares. "Any community that flouts the dignity of the laws and courts of justice opens the way to the violent rule of the mob throughout the nation. It assaults the very ideals upon which our civilization is dependent. A nation's penitence and prayer must be summoned both to check the lynching evil and to build up deeper respect for the processes of justice and new sympathetic understanding among all the people. In the attitude of penitence and the atmosphere of prayer the best things come forth.

4,000 Lost Lives

"The sobering fact that more than 4,000 people have been victims of lynching in our country has filled all people of goodwill with a sense of horror and shame. That mob violence should have continued through the years, so that in 1926 there were as many as 30 persons lynched in the United States, is so flagrantly opposed to the progress of right and brotherhood that all who are committed to the way of Christ are asked to observe a day of penitence and prayer that our American nation may be purged of this blot upon its pages."

The call urges national confession before God for "our failure to act on the belief that we are all of one blood' and have one Father," for "the callous indifference and silence we have shown in the face of monstrous wrong, thereby ourselves becoming guilty in the sight of God and man," and for "our false sense of racial superiority and all the heartless attitudes that accompany it."

The statement suggests as grounds for thanksgiving "the new sense of the unity of the whole human family to which our generation is coming," and "a deepening sensitiveness of conscience with reference to all discrimination against any of our fellows because of race or class."

America 'Thankful'

America should also be thankful, it is suggested, "for all public officers who courageously defend the majesty of law and orderly government, who faithfully protect those for whom they are responsible, and who resolutely do their duty even in the face of danger and death.

"In the 45 years ending with 1926, American mobs lynched 4,551 persons, about three-fourths of whom were negroes, about 91 of whom were women," said Dr. Haynes. "In 1927 to Dec. 1 there were 15 victims, two of them burned at the stake.

"Every lynching that occurs is an indictment of Christianity before the world. American lynchings, according to the testimony of missionaries abroad, are doing much to hinder and discredit mission work around the world."

NASHVILLE, TENN. BANNER

Saturday, Jan. 7, 1928

A MOB FOILED.

If a man had been lynched at Purvis, Miss., on the night of Jan. 5, the story would have been told on the front pages of all the newspapers and the Chicago Tribune would have carried a bitter editorial on the barbarous lawlessness of the South in general and in particular. As it merely happened that courageous and intelligent officers foiled a mob at Purvis, Miss., on the night of Jan. 5, the story went to the back or inside and the Chicago Tribune will devote the space to something else, perhaps a discussion of how gang wars may be stopped. Thus runs the world away in the world of news and it is not altogether fair to the people concerned. Mississippi had seven lynchings last year and received any amount of unfavorable publicity and criticism as a result. It richly deserved all it got, too, so far as that goes, but it just as fully deserves comment and commendation when its officers display ingenuity and bravery in preventing one of those inhuman crimes against society and an individual. If the instinct of fairness is resident in the minds and hearts of those who scored Mississippi for its 1927 lynching record, they will now arise and praise the state for a splendid start in the other direction during the early days of 1928. There was a full-voiced chorus of lamentation. There should be just as full-voiced a paean of rejoicing.

Walterboro, S. C., Press.

JAN 4 1928

Sixteen Persons Lynched In 1927

Tuskagee, Ala., Jan. — Sixteen persons all negroes, were lynched during 1927, it was announced today by Tuskegee Institute on the basis of record compiled by its department of research and records. This compared with 30 in the previous year, 17 in 1925, 16 in 1924 and 33 in 1923.

Four of the victims were burned to death, the report said, and the bodies of two were burned after they had been put to death. Offenses with which they were charged included murder, assault, attempted assault and improper conduct.

The report said that of those lynched, six were taken from jails and six seized from officers of the law outside jails. It added that there were 42 instances in which officers prevented lynchings, 34 in Southern states and eight in Northern states.

Donaldsonville, La., Chief

Donaldsonville, La., Chief

DEC 31 1927

The principal of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, a college for colored people, located at Tuskegee, Ala., has sent to the press a circular letter containing a brief summary of the lynchings in the United States during the year 1927. The letter reads as follows:

"I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Departments of Records and Research. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

"There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

"All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were —murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

"The states in which lynchings occured and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1."

Elberton, Ga., Star

JAN 3 1928

A CLEAN RECORD

Georgia went through the past twelve months without a lynching to mar a perfect record. On several occasions is seemed that it would be impossible to keep an outraged mob from claiming their victim, but due to prompt action of officers and an aroused public sentiment against mob violence, the record was kept clean.

Following is the report of lynchings throughout the country during 1927 as sent out by Tuskeegee Institute:

"There were 26 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number for 1926. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and their bodies burned.

"There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern States. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed forces were used to repel the would be lynchers.

"All of the persons lynched were negroes.

"The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1."

Hopkinsville, Ky., New Era

JAN 2 1928

16 Lynchings in the Year of 1927; 42 Are Prevented

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 2.—The following data concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research shows there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, and the same number 16 as for 1924, and 7 less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in Northern States and 34 in Southern States. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, 7; attempted murder 2, rape, 2, attempted rape 3, improper conduct 1, charge not reported 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas 1.

MERIDIAN, MISS., STAR

JANUARY 1, 1928

STATE LEADS IN LYNCHINGS

Tuskegee, Ala., Dec. 31.—Sixteen persons, all negroes, were lynched during 1927, it was announced Saturday by Tuskegee Institute on the basis of records compiled by its department of records and research.

This compared with thirty in the previous year, 17 in 1927, 16 in 1924, and 33 in 1923.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each were listed as follows:

Mississippi 7; Arkansas 3; Tennessee 2; Kentucky 1; Louisiana 1; Missouri 1; Texas 1.

Four of the victims were burned to death, the report said, and the bodies of two were burned after they had been put to death.

Offenses with which they were charged included murder, assault, attempted assault and improper conduct.

The report said that of those lynched, six were taken from jails

Lynchings - 1927
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan. — Dec.

2622

2622

STANDARD
Watertown, N.Y.
JAN 9 1928

LYNCHINGS DECREASE

Mob rule replaced orderly processes of the law in punishment of crime in only 16 instances in the United States during 1927, according to records of lynchings compiled by the Tuskegee Institute. This was 14 fewer cases than in the preceding year but only one less than in 1925 and on a parity with 1924.

Demonstrations which attained volume enough to be classed as attempted lynchings numbered 42, but vigilance and courage of officers of the law repelled many mobs and saved the lives of 15 white and 53 negro prisoners.

Mississippi had the blackest record among the states, seven lynchings taking place within her borders. Arkansas mobs prevailed three times, and in Tennessee twice, while one lynching is marked up against Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas.

It is almost superfluous to state, shameful as the admission is, that all of the victims were negroes.

Knickerbocker Press
ALBANY, N. Y.
JAN 4 1928

THE SOUTH'S SLOW PROGRESS.

The departments of records and research of Tuskegee institute publish figures showing that sixteen persons were lynched in the United States in 1927, while on forty-two occasions lynchings were prevented by officers of the law. While this figure is exactly the same as the figure for 1924 and only one less than the total for 1925, it represents a distinct decrease from the peak years of 1923 and 1926. Thirty persons were lynched in the country last year, when bursts of mob violence appeared everywhere. The 1923 figure was thirty-one.

Eight lynchings which were prevented by officers of the law were in northern states, but all sixteen which actually took place were south of the Mason and Dixon line, seven of them in the state of Mississippi. All sixteen were negroes.

It is apparent that while some progress is being made in gaining control over the machinery of justice, the south still fails to be completely its own master. Such exhibitions as the collapse of the Alabama flogging cases are of course a continual incentive to disregard statutes and turn instead to laws made up on the spur of the moment. Sixteen lynchings are not so very many when spread out over a vast territory and over a period of a year, but each time the mob gains a victory over the law, the work of building up stable and secure justice in the south is immeasurably retarded.

No more important task faces the south today than the stamping out of such outbursts. There was a time when rough and ready justice seemed the only kind obtainable in the southern states. All that is changed now, and the south has taken its place with the progressive, enlightened sections of the country. This throwback must be eliminated.

KANSAS CITY

CHANNING, TEX. NEWS
DECEMBER 29, 1927

TUSKEGEE INSTI. REPORTS SIXTEEN LYNCHINGS IN 1927

The department of records and research of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute for Negroes reports that there were 16 lynchings in the United States in 1927.

This is 14 less than the number for 1926, one less than the number for 1925, the same number as for 1924 and 17 less than the number for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were —murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

KANSAS CITY

FAIRBURY, NEB., NEWS.
DECEMBER 29, 1927

The following statistics on lynchings in this country were compiled by R. R. Morton, principal of the Tuskeege Normal and Industrial Institute. I find there were sixteen persons lynched in 1927. This is fourteen less than the number of thirty for 1926, one less than the number seventeen for 1925, the same number sixteen as for 1024 and seventeen less than the number thirty-three for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from pails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death two were put to death and then their boddies burned. There were forty-two instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and thirty-four in southern states. In twenty-four the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precauitons taken. In eighteen other instances, armed forces was used to repel the would be lynchers. sixty-eight persons, fifteen white and fifty-three Negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs. All of the presons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were murder, seven; attempt murder, two; rape, two; attempted rape, three; improper conduct, one; charge not reported, one. The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state area s follows: Arkansas, three; Kentucky, one; Louisiana, one; Mississippi, seven; Missouri, one; Tennessee, two; Texas, one."

KANSAS CITY

ADA, OKLA., NEWS
DECEMBER 30, 1927

LYNCHING STATISTICS FOR PAST YEAR GIVEN

The Tuskogee Normal and Industrial Institute has compiled the following statistics concerning lynchings during the year 1927:

There were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926. one less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

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All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, seven; attempted murder, two; rape two; attempted rape, three; improper conduct, one; charge not reported, one.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, three; Kentucky, one; Louisiana, one; Mississippi, seven; Missouri, one; Tennessee, two; Texas, one. There were no lynchings in Oklahoma during the year 1927.

KANSAS CITY. MO.
TOPEKA. KAN.

CORPUS CHRISTI, TEX. CALLER
JANUARY 1, 1928

Sixteen Lynched In United States During Past Year

Tuskegee, Ala., Dec. 31.—There were sixteen persons lynched in the United States in 1927, four less than were lynched in 1926, according to the department of records and research of Tuskegee institute. In 1925 there were seventeen lynched; in 1924, sixteen; and in 1923, thirty-five.

Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from the hands of the law outside jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and their bodies burned.

There were forty-two instances in which officers prevented lynchings; eight of these were in northern states and thirty-four in Southern states. In twenty-four of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In eighteen cases, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers.

Mississippi led with seven lynchings; Arkansas, three; Tennessee, two; Kentucky, one; Louisiana, one; Missouri, one; and Texas, one. Murder was the chief offense charged, seven having been lynched on that charge.

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The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennesse, 2; Texas, 1

[illegible] CHRONICLE

JAN 1 1928

Drop in Lynchings In South Shown

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Dec. 31.—(AP)—Sixteen persons, all negroes, were lynched during 1927, it was announced Saturday by Tuskegee institute on the basis of records compiled by its department of records and research. This compared with 30 in the previous year, 17 in 1925, 16 in 1924 and 33 in 1923.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each were listed as follows: Mississippi, 7; Arkansas, 3; Tennessee, 2; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

Four of the victims were burned to death, the report said, and the bodies of two were burned after they had been put to death. Offenses with which they were charged included murder, assault, attempted assault and improper conduct.

The report said that of those lynched, six were taken from jails and six seized from officers of the law outside jails. It added that there were 42 instances in which officers prevented lynchings, 34 in southern states [illegible] in northern states.

KANSAS CITY

GADSDEN, ALA., TIMES-NEWS
JANUARY 2, 1928

LYNCHINGS IN 1927 TOTAL 16

Record For Past Year Is Much Better Than In 1926

Tuskegee, Ala., Jan. 2. (Special)—There were 16 personns lynched in 1927, according to records compiled by Tuskegee institute. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the

KANSAS CITY. MO.
TOPEKA. KAN.

NEWTON KS. KANSAN-REP.
DECEMBER 31, 1927

LYNCHINGS IN 1927

The Tuskegee Institute of Tuskegee, Ala., which for many years has kept records and made reports on lynchings in the United States, has issued the following statistics for the year 1927:

There were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jail. Four of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

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All the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas 3; Kentucky 1; Louisiana 1; Mississippi 7; Missouri 1; Tennessee 2; Texas 1.

KANSAS CITY. MO.
TOPEKA. KAN.

CHANNING TEX NEWS
DECEMBER 30, 1927

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The department of records and research of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute for Negroes reports that there were 16 lynchings in the United States in 1927.

This is 14 less than the number for 1926, one less than the number for 1925, the same number as for 1924 and 17 less than the number for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were—murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

KANSAS CITY. MO.
TOPEKA. KAN.

LITTLE ROCK ARK DEM
JANUARY 1, 1928

1926 Sets Low Record In Lynchings in U. S.

Tuskegee, Ala., Dec. 31.—The United States established a new low record for lynching in the year just closed.

A special report issued tonight by the Tuskegee Institute records 16 lynchings during the year—one less than the previous low record of 1925.

All the 1927 victims were negroes. Twelve were taken from the hands of the law by violence.

Lynchings in 1926 numbered 30.

Officers of the law prevented lynchings in 42 instances, the report added. Eight of these instances were in Northern states and 34 in the South.

The number of lynchings by states: Mississippi, 7; Arkansas, 3; Tennessee, 2; Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas, one each.

KANSAS CITY. MO.
TOPEKA. KAN.

INDEPENDENCE, KS, REP
JANUARY 3, 1928

FEWER LYNCHINGS IN THE YEAR JUST PAST

Dear Sir:

Lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the department of Records and Research. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number, 30 for 1926, one less than the number 17, for 1926, the same number, 16 as for 1924, and 17 less than the number, 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented the lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southerns states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchings. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2, and Texas, 1.

KANSAS CITY

HATTIESBURG, MISS., AMERICAN
DECEMBER 24, 1927

LYNCHING DECREASES

(By Associated Press)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—Lynching is on the decrease in the south, Robert R. Moton, principal of the Tuskegee Institute, told President Coolidge today during a call at the White House.

Lynchings-1927
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan.-Dec.

2623

Lynching Record For 1927 Shows Sixteen Negroes Victims Of Mobs

Notwithstanding that in thirty-four southern and eight northern states officers of the law prevented lynchings, there were seven southern states in which sixteen persons, all Negroes, were lynched during 1927, according to the annual summary issued by Dr. Robert R. Moton through the Department of Records and Research of Tuskegee Institute.

Sixty-eight persons, fifteen white and fifty-three Negroes, were thus saved from mob vengeance, and in eighteen cases officers of the law used armed force to repel the lynchers. In twenty-four cases the prisoners were either removed or precautionary measures, such as augmenting the guard, were taken by sheriffs.

But of the sixteen lynchings during 1927, twelve of the victims were taken from the law's protection, six from jails and six from officers outside of jails. Four were burned to death and two were killed and their bodies burned afterwards.

The number of lynched is fourteen less in 1926, when mobs killed thirty; one less than the seventeen in 1925; equal to 1924's number, sixteen; and seventeen less than in 1923, when the number reached thirty-three.

Three were in Arkansas; one each in Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas; seven in Mississippi and two in Tennessee. Murder was charged in seven cases; attempted murder in two; rape, two; attempted rape, three; improper conduct, one, and in one case no charge was reported.

DURANGO COLO DEMOCRAT
JANUARY 1, 1928

14 LESS LYNCHINGS REPORTED IN 1927, SHOWN BY RECORDS

Tuskegee, Ala., Dec. 31.—Robert R. Morton, principal of the Tuskegee Normal & Industrial Institute for Negroes, which was founded by the late Booker T. Washington, gave out the following data, Saturday, relative to the number of lynchings throughout the United States in 1927 as compared with other years, as follows:

There were sixteen persons lynched in 1927. This is fourteen less than the number thirty for 1926; one less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were—murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

LAWRENCE KS. DEMOCRAT
DECEMBER 29, 1927

The following concerning lynchings for the past year has been compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. There were 16 persons lynched in 1927.

This is 14 less than the number for 1926, 1 less than the number for 1925, the same number for 1924 and 17 less than the number for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law ourside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of the mob.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were— murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occured and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

OSKALOOSA IA HER
MONDAY, JANUARY 2, 1928.

TOTAL LYNCHINGS IN 1927 WAS 16

FIGURES BY TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE SHOW DECREASE.

14 LESS THAN TOTAL OF 1926

Victims Were All Negroes, Residents in Seven States—Mississippi Heads List of Illegal Hangings Wtih 7 for Year.

(United Press Dispatch)

Tuskegee Institute, Ala., Jan. 2.—Lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research numbered 16. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, one less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

Officers Prevented 42 Lynchings.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In twenty-four of the cases the prisoners were removed or the gaurds augmented or other precautions taken. In eighteen other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All Persons Lynched Were Negroes.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

NASHVILLE, TENN. BANNER
JANUARY 1, 1928

NEW LOW RECORD FOR LYNCHINGS

Tuskegee, Ala., Dec. 31.—(By International News Service.)—The United States established a new low record for lynchings in the year just closed.

A special report issued tonight by Tuskegee Institute records sixteen lynchings during the year—one less than the previous low record of 1925.

All the 1927 victims were Negroes. Twelve were taken from the hands of the law by violence.

Lynchings in 1926 numbered thirty.

Officers of the law prevented lynchings in forty-two instances, the report added. Eight of these instances were in Northern states and thirty-four in the South.

The number of lynchings by states: Mississippi, 7; Arkansas, 3; Tennessee, 2; Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas, 1 each.

RHINELANDER WIS NEWS
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31,

16 WERE LYNCHED IN 1927, REPORT

All of Mob Victims Were Negroes; Seven Killings in Mississippi.

TUSKEGEE, Ala. Dec. 31 (Special)—During the year 1927, 16 persons, all of them negroes, have been lynched by mobs, according to a compilation announced today by the Tuskegee Institute. This is 14 less than in 1926; one less than in 1925; the same as in 1924, and 17 less than in 1923.

Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law; six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers prevented lynchings. Offenses charged against those lynched were: Murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

POPLAR BLUFF MO REP
DECEMBER 31, 1927

16 PERSONS WERE LYNCHED DURING 1927

Report of Colored Institute Shows List of Lynchings Decreased As Compared With 1926.

Fewer lynchings occurred during the year 1927 than in 1926, according to a report issued by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute at Tuskegee, Ala., today.

The report shows that 16 persons were lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number in 1926, when 30 were lynched. In 1925, seventeen people were lynched; in 1924 the total was 17, and in 1923 the total was 33.

Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law—six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of those killed were burned to death, and two were put to death and their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings; eight of those were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of such cases, the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of those lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder 7, attempted murder 2, statutory charge 5, improper conduct 1, charge not reported 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas 3, Kentucky 1, Louisiana 1, Mississippi 7, Missouri 1. Tennessee 2, Texas 1.

NEWPORT PA NEWS (bi-wkly
TUESDAY, JANUARY 3, 1928.

SIXTEEN LYNCHINGS LAST YEAR

The following concerning lynchings for the past year was compiled by the Tuskegee Institute, Ala. There were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number, 30, for 1926, 1 less than the number, 17, for 1925, the same number, 16, as for 1924, and 17 less than the number, 33, for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed forced was used to repel the would be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offences charged were: murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which the lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas,

Boston Mass. Globe
JAN 2 1928

SIXTEEN NEGROES LYNCHED IN 1927

Tuskegee Reports This Total 14 Less Than in 1926

[Special Dispatch to The Herald]

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 1—Sixteen persons were lynched in the United States in 1927, according to the department of records and research of Tuskegee Institute. This was 14 less than the number for 1926, one less than the number for 1925, the same number as for 1924 and 17 less than the number for 1923.

Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death and two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons—15 white and 53 negroes—were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, seven; attempted murder, two; rape, two; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, one; charge not reported, one.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state, are as follows: Arkansas, three; Kentucky, one; Louisiana, one; Mississippi, seven; Missouri, one; Tennesseee, two; Texas, one.

N. Y. City Times

Crime and Disasters

By ROBERT R. MOTON,
Principal of the Tuskegee Institute.

I SEND you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. I find there were sixteen persons lynched in 1927. This is fourteen less than the number (thirty) for 1926, one less than the number (seventeen) for 1925, the same number (sixteen) as for 1924 and seventeen less than the number (thirty-three) for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were forty-two instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern States and thirty-four in Southern States. In twenty-four of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In eighteen other instances armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, fifteen white and fifty-three negroes, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

NEWTON KS. REPUBLICAN
DECEMBER 31, 1927

LYNCHINGS IN 1927

The Tuskegee Institute of Tuskegee, Ala., which for many years has kept records and made reports on lynchings in the United States, has issued the following statistics for the year 1927:

There were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jail. Four of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 1; attempted murder, 2; rape 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows. Arkansas 3; Kentucky 1; Louisiana 1; Mississippi 7; Missouri 1: Tennessee 2: Texas 1.

KANSAS CITY KS. KANSAN
JANUARY 1, 1928

EWER LYNCHINGS IN 1927

nited States Establishes ow Rec, ord of Sixteen Executions Thru Mob Violence

uskegee, Ala., Dec 1.—(INS) he United States established a ew low record for lynchings in the year just closed.

A special report issued tonight by the Tuskegee Institute records sixteen lynchings during the year, one less than the previous low record of 1925.

All the 1927 victims were colored persons. Twelve were taken from the hands of the law by violence.

Lynchings in 1926 numbered thirty.

Officers of the law prevented lynchings in forty-two instances, the report added. Eight of these instances were in northern states and thirty-four in the southern. The number of lynchings by states: Mississippi, 7; Arkansas, 3; Tennessee, 2; Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas one each.

SHREVEPORT, LA., Journal
DEC 22 1927

LYNCHING ON DECLINE.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—(By Associated Press)—Lynching is on the decrease in the South, Robert R. Moton, principal of the Tuskegee Institute, told President Coolidge today during a call at the White House.

Tifton, Ga., Gazette
DEC 31 1927

NO LYNCHINGS IN GEORGIA IN 1927

Sixteen Lynched in United States, as Compared With 30 in 1926. Practically All in Southern States.

Tuskegee, Ala., Dec. 31.—There were sixteen persons lynched in 1927, according to figures compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. This is fourteen less than the number thirty for 1926; one less than the number, seventeen, for 1925; the same number, sixteen, as for 1924 and seventeen less than the number, thirty-three, for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, and two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were forty-two instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern states and thirty-four in Southern states. In twenty-four of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In eighteen other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, fifteen white and fifty-three negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, seven; attempted murder, two; rape, two; attempted rape, three; improper conduct, one; charge not reported, one.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, three; Kentucky one; Louisiana, one; Mississippi, seven; Missouri, one; Tennessee, two; Texas one.

Lynchings-1927
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan.— Dec.

2624

SAN ANTONIO, TEX. EXPRESS
JANUARY 3, 1928

NOTABLE RECORD OF OFFICIAL RESISTANCE TO MOBS

Statistics gathered by Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute—for many years an alert investigator in the field—show that the country achieved an encouraging recovery from the lynch-murder evil during the past 12 months.

According to that institution's records, 16 persons were put to death by mobs in 1927, as compared with 30 victims in 1926. These figures indicate a return to the more hopeful conditions of 1924 and 1925, in which years the Institute counted 16 and 17 lynchings, respectively.

Sociologists, public authorities and other earnest students of this vexed problem then voiced optimistic predictions that the blot on the Nation's name would be eradicated within a comparatively few years. Striking contrasts to previous records seemed to warrant that sanguine opinion—for 83 lynchings had been perpetrated in 1919, 61 in 1920, 63 in 1921, 57 in 1922 and 28 in 1923.

The improvement was attributed to various influences—such as the persistent agitation for the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill, long before Congress; a related sentiment in the South, as the fruition of vigorous educational work; the negro migrations, which aroused thoughtful people to bestir themselves against mob violence—and so on.

Then came the relapse in 1926—30 lynch-murders—which gave all these theories a severe jolt. Renewed demands for enactment of the Dyer Bill were heard, and the publicity efforts of civic and patriotic societies were prosecuted with fresh zeal.

Some credit for the better showing last year is due those activities. As compared with the 64 atrocities in 1917, the 16 lynchings in 1927 mark a decade of progress. And no longer than 15 years ago, 145 such crimes were committed within a twelvemonth!

These facts, reported by Tuskegee Institute, show where most praise for last year's betterment belongs:

Law officers prevented lynchings in 42 instances, 34 of which were in the South. Armed force was employed 18 times to repel mobs, and 68 prisoners (15 of them white) thus were saved from such violence.

On the other hand, 12 of the 16 persons lynched in 1927 were taken forcibly from the hands of the law. Four were burned at the stake; two others were slain and their bodies consumed in bonfires. Acts of almost incredible barbarity still are committed under such circumstances.

But for the intervention of courageous, resourceful law officers, 58 names might have been added to the 1927 lynch-murder roll. Hope for progress in eradicating the evil thus is seen to lie no more in the slow processes of popular education than in the election of fearless public officials, accorded the support they deserve.

Spokane (Wn.) Spokesman-Review
January 1, 1928

FEWER LYNCHINGS IN 192[7]

Total of 17 Is 14 Less Than in 1926—All Killed Were Negroes.

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala., Dec 31.—Concerning lynchings for the last year, as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research, it is found there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than for 1926, one less than for 1925, the same number as for 1924 and 17 less than for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, seven; attempted murder, two; statutory offense, two; attempted statutory offense, three; improper conduct, one; charge not reported, one.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows:: Arkansas, three; Kentucky, one; Louisiana, one; Mississippi, seven; Missouri, one; Tennessee, two; Texas, one.

Galveston Tex News
1-1-28

SIXTEEN NEGROES LYNCHED DURING THE YEAR 1927

By Associated Press.

Tuskegee, Ala., Dec. 31.—Sixteen persons, all negroes, were lynched during 1927, it was announced today by Tuskegee Institute on the basis of records compiled by its department of records and research. This compared with thirty in the previous year, seventeen in 1926, sixteen in 1924 and thirty-three in 1923.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number each were listed as follows:

Mississippi, 7; Arkansas, 3; Tennessee, 2; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1. Four of the victims were burned to death, the raport said, and the bodies of two were burned after they had been put to death.

AN IMPROVED LYNCHING RECORD

Dr. Robert R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Institute, sends the press the annual report on lynchings as compiled by the Department of Records and Research at Tuskegee.

Advertiser

Naturally in examining this report we hastened to see what the cold figures showed for Alabama. Happily, and not at all to our surprise, it is found that Alabama's record for the last 12 months is again clean. We had no lynchings in this State in 1927. We have had none since 1925, we believe. And what is equally gratifying is that there were no lynchings in either of the Carolinas, nor in Georgia, nor in Virginia—all Southern States.

The record for the country is very much better than for 1926, though no better than for 1925.

It appears from the Tuskegee compilation that there weer 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 frpm officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern States and 34 in Southern States. "In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken." In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs."

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were—murder 7, attempted murder 2, rape 4, attempted rape 3, improper conduct 1, charge not reported 1.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas 3, Kentucky 1, Louisiana 1, Mississippi 7, Missouri 7, Tennessee 2, Texas 1.

Southern newspaper editors are puzzled by the fact that the statistics of Tuskegee Institute and of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People are not in agreement. Tuskegee places the number of lynchings at 16 the National Association at 21. The Macon Telegraph and The Greensboro Daily News are curious to know the explanation of the discrepancy. For itself, The Advertiser prefers to accept Tuskegee's statistics, not because they are more favorable, but because the National Association is a propaganda society and as such is more militant than Tuskegee. Tuskegee's Department of Research seeks only information, the National Association is eager also to draw conclusions and make a point. We have always found the Tuskegee records to be reliable.

Special interest attaches to Georgia's clean record because it is unprecedented. The Georgia newspapers are elated over the fine showing of their State. The Columbus Enquirer-Sun, The Macon Telegraph and The Atlanta Constitution and others unite in celebrating.

Says The Telegraph:

> No matter what the difference is, neither agency was able to include Georgia among those States whose people had given themselves over to mob violence. Statistics do not run as far back as the days of Gen. Oglethorpe, but it is perhaps true that 1927 was the first year since the early days of the Georgia colony when there was no mob violence. The achievement is all the more significant when it is considered that during the year there was at least one case that would have certainly, in other days, provoked a lynching. That was the case in Jasper County when a negro assaulted a white woman. Not only were the few hoodlums who threatened violence promptly warned that to attempt it would mean trouble, but the feeling that emerged from that crime was one of friendliness for the responsible negroes of the community and the desire to protect them from that blind racial ill-feeling that attends such crimes and lynchings.

The Constitution is happy to report that "Georgia has at last been eliminated from the 'black list,' and it is hoped it has attained a position in this manner which it will always maintain."

The Houston Post-Dispatch thinks that the steady improvement in the lynching situation makes it unlikely that Congress will enact a Federal anti-lynching law. The Post-Dispatch in its editorial also pays spe-

cial tribute to those officers of the law in the South who have done so much to check the mob spirit.

Officers of the law are said to have saved the lives of 68 persons, 15 of them white, in 1927. Says The Post-Dispatch:

> Suppose these sixty-five who were saved had been added to the sixteen who were done to death. That would have been eighty people slain by maniacal mobs in one year. What a ghastly and humiliating record that would have been for the Nation that poses as the most enlightened in the world. Could the rest of the world have been blamed had it pointed the finger of scorn at us?

The Greensboro Daily News looks at lynching statistics by ten-year periods, using Tuskegee records as authority. The number of lynchings in the last ten years is found to be as follows:

1927—16	1922—57
1926—30	1921—64
1925—17	1920—61
1924—16	1919—83
1923—33	1918—64

Commenting, The Daily News says that 'back of 1918 the number increases irregularly to 100 in 1908, to 115 in 1900, to 200 in 1893. Over the long period from 1882 to the present the curve is downward. Within the ten-year period above it is obviously and sharply downward. Nineteen twenty-six is the exception, with its total of 30, partly explained by eight lynchings in Florida and seven in Texas, both of which are far above normal for these States. The high figure in Florida is generally attributed to unsettled conditions in the boom days, and the high figure in Texas is probably due to oil booms and the confusion they always cause. But the ten-year period shows the trend. It is unquestionably downward."

Further:

> The past year shows Mississippi with the worst record. That is normal. Seven lynchings there are more than twice as many as in any other State. Arkansas is credited with three, Tennessee with two, and Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas, with one each. That means that of the distinctly Southern States Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama and Oklahoma had none. Of these last North Carolina has had none since 1921, Oklahoma none since 1923 and Alabama none since 1925.

Over a ten-year period, 1918-1927, inclusive, the Southern States stand in this order, The Daily News finds:

Georgia, 81; Mississippi, 75; Texas, 63; Florida, 49; Arkansas, 35; Louisiana, 27; Alabama, 23; North Carolina and South Carolina, 13 each; Tennessee, 12; Kentucky, Oklahoma and Virginia, six each.

Or to extend the summary over the long period back to 1882, the number of lynchings in each Southern State is as follows:

Mississippi, 522; Georgia, 503; Texas, 469; Louisiana, 376; Alabama, 340; Arkansas, 291; Florida, 256; Tennessee, 241; Kentucky, 212; South Carolina, 163; Oklahoma, 161; Virginia, 102; North Carolina, 91.

The North Carolina newspaper concludes by observing that "in essential respects the long period, the ten-year period and the last year's record are in agreement. But it is worth noting that some of the Far South States, notably Alabama and Georgia, have improved notably. In Georgia, for instance, the average number murdered by mobs in the five-year period of 1918-1922 was 14. But in the succeeding five-year period, 1923-1927, the average per year was two. Nobody with any knowledge of the facts holds that improvement like that is merely chance. It is caused in Georgia, as it has been caused in other States, by those who were determined to decrease mob murders."

Press
Paterson, N. J.
12/30/27

Lynchings Decrease.

A report on lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research shows there were sixteen persons lynched in 1927. This is fourteen less than the number thirty for 1926, one less than the number seventeen for 1925, the same number sixteen as for 1924 and seventeen less than the number thirty-three for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were forty-two instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern states and thirty-four in Southern states. In twenty-four of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In eighteen other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, fifteen white and fifty-three negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, seven; attempted murder, two; rape, two; attempted rape, three; improper conduct, one; charge not reported, one.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, three; Kentucky, one; Louisiana, one; Mississippi, seven; Missouri, one; Tennessee, two; Texas, one.

NO LYNCHING IN SOUTH CAROLINA 1927.

Governor Richards in his annual address to the legislature which convened Tuesday referred to the lynching evil as follows: "Although sorely tried, and many times placed under the most harrowing circumstances, South Carolina is to be congratulated that her people possessed their souls in patience and did not resort to lynch law, but in every instance submitted their grievances to the regularly constituted Courts of the land. Let our people determine that the record of 1927 shall be maintained; that never again shall a lynching blacken South Carolina's record, and that we shall sustain and defend regularly constituted law under any and all circumstances, to the glory and honor of our state."

All good citizens certainly will agree with the Governor and join in the hope, that this State's record shall never again be blackened by such cowardly murders. That there were no lynchings in 1927, "although sorley tried, and many times placed under the most harrowing circumstances," shows that there is absolutely no reason ever for a lynching. And certainly there must be an all round better feeling among all citizens, none carrying around with him the secret knowledge that he is a cowardly murderer.

Dothan, Ala., Eagle
JAN 31 1928

NO LYNCHINGS, BUT—

There were 15 lynching in Southern States last year and one in Missouri. The States rank in eminence as follows:

Mississippi, 7.
Arkansas, 3.
Tennessee, 2.
Kentucky, 1.
Louisiana, 1.
Texas, 1.
Missouri, 1.

It will be seen that Mississippi, as usual, leads in the pastime of ridding itself of criminals and alleged criminals without the aid of the law and courts.

Also it is perceived Alabamians did not lynch a person in 1927. But our State distinguished itself in one field, anyhow—that of floggings. We established a world's record in that sport, and the mob element of Alabama should content itself with this honor. After all, floggings are cousins to lynchings, and it requires as much bravery to flog as to lynch.

BLYTHEVILLE ARK. NEWS
DECEMBER 30, 1927

LYNCHING RECORD FOR THE YEAR 1927

TUSKEGEE, Okla., [illegible]—According to the records of Tuskegee Institute, there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 3 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 7; attempted murder 2⅛ rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas 1.

Lynchings-1927
Reports on, Sent Press.

2625

Jan. -Dec.

Birmingham, Ala., News

JAN 2 1928

This "16" Should Be Reduced To "0"

Sixteen lynchings in the United States of America for the year 1927 is a bad record.

Its only redeeming feature is that it isn't as bad as it might have been—indeed, isn't as bad as it has been in rather recent years.

But there is no denying the fact that this record is still hideously bad—appallingly blighting. In each of these 16 lynching cases human society in this country as well as a human being was lynched.

The law that is supposed to protect this human society was lynched.

Institutions supposedly sacred to this country's people were lynched.

In the decreasing frequency of this atrocious crime may be found some satisfaction.

But the victory of law over mob violence, of civilization over blood-lust, will not be definitely won till this "16" of the year 1927 is reduced to "0."

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 4, 1928.

THE WAY TO REDUCE LYNCHINGS

(St. Louis Post-Dispatch)

There is a gratifying note in the record of lynchings for the past year, compiled by the Department of Records and Research of the Tuskegee Institute. There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, 34 of them in southern states. In 24 of these cases effective precautions were taken, through the removal of prisoners or placing of guards. In 18, armed forces were used to repel lynchers.

Mississippi leads the list with seven lynchings, Arkansas follows with three, Tennessee with two, and there were one each in Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas. The lynchings were less by 14 this year than in 1926. Four Negroes were burned. The bodies of two were burned after they were killed.

The encouraging sign is the action of officers of the law to protect prisoners from mob violence. When law officers do their full duty in protecting prisoners, lynchings will be reduced to a minimum. It is the one effective preventive.

Anniston, Ala., Star

JAN 2 1928

Alabama's Record Unstained By Lynching During Last Year

Alabama passed through 1927 without a lynching to mar its record. In statistics compiled by the Tuskegee Institute of Records and Research, it is shown that there were sixteen persons lynched during 1927, all in Southern states, but not one life was sacrificed at the hands of a mob in this state.

Mississippi tops the list with seven lynchings; Arkansas is next with three; Tennessee had two, while Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas had one each.

The total number of lynchings for the year is fourteen less than the total in 1926 when thirty were reported. However, it is only one below the number in 1925 and exactly the same as in 1924. In 1923, which leads all other years covered in the Tuskegee report in the matter of lynchings, there were thirty-three persons killed by mobs.

An encouraging portion of the report is that officers of the law acted to prevent forty-two attempted or threatened lynchings, and saved the lives of 68 persons who might otherwise have been the victims of enraged bands of men. Movements to thwart mobs in twenty-four instances took the form of augmented guards or spiriting prisoners away to other jails, while in eighteen other cases, armed force was used to repel would-be lynchers.

Sixteen persons lynched are too many. That places a dark enough blot on the record of the South as a whole. One such affair is too many. There should not be any lynchings. But there is some satisfaction in knowing that nearly three times as many lynchings were prevented as were allowed to occur. A disposition on the part of officers everywhere to prevent mob killings is indicated.

Alabama's clean slate in 1927 will be a source of pride to every resident of the state, and it is to be hoped that never again will the name of this commonwealth be smirched with the taking of the life of a human being by a mob.

THE LYNCHING RECORD REVIEWED BY BANNER

NASHVILLE EVENING PAPER'S EDITOR SOUNDS WARNING

Warns The South That It Must Recognize All of The Laws To The States

"THE LYNCHING RECORD.

There is, of course, a certain amount of gratification over the fact that Tuskegee Institute's annual report on lynching shows a new low record of these [illegible] crimes for the United States, but the people [illegible] section must still hang their heads in shame when the matter comes up for discussion. There were sixteen instances of mob violence in the country during the year just past and every one of them occurred in the South. Mississippi led the roll of dishonor with seven lynchings, Arkansas had three, Tennessee two, and Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas one each. All the victims of organized lawlessness were Negroes and there was not in evidence after any single one of these crimes the definite expression of outraged public sentiment that would have resulted in running down and bringing to justice those who were responsible for putting an indelible blot on the record of the states where lynch law took things into its hands. The foregoing words are not agreeable, but they are true, and only through looking such situations fair in the face may the South hope to redeem itself once and for all from the worst disgrace that now attaches to it.

Though the South may not feel otherwise than deeply shamed at the phase of the Tuskegee report that deals with lynchings actually perpetrated, it his ground for hope and congratulation in the large number of instances in which courageous officers of the law foiled the plans of mobs and saved their prisoners from gun, rope or fire. Lynchings were prevented on no less than forty-two occasions in 1927, and thirty-four of these instances took place in the South. It is a state of affairs that carries great promise of the final eradication of mob law in this section. It may also be said that the South owes no greater debt of gratitude to any of its citizens than to the men who defied mobs and prevented the utterly disgraceful and inexcusable crimes they would have committed.

If the states of the South desire a model or a pattern in the task of keeping their records clear of the blot of lynching, they need seek no further than North Carolina. Several years ago it was made apparent to those who entertained thoughts of taking the law into their own hands that they would do so at their own great risk. On more than one occasion the whole force of North Carolina's power was turned to the discovery, apprehension and punishment of the participants in a bit of mob violence. The offenders were hunted out, tried, convicted and sentenced. Furthermore, and fully as important, these lynchers were not relieved of their prison sentences by the action of a governor. It became an exceedingly perilous business to join a mob in North Carolina and there have been no mobs worth the mention since. In other words, the best people of North Carolina asserted themselves and demonstrated in practical fashion their horror and disgust and shame at lynching. The emotions felt by North Carolinians are the same as those of the vast majority of people in other states of the South, but they must be expressed in practical ways if they are to be properly effective as a curb to the terrible practices in question."—From Nashville Banner, Manday January 2, 1928.

—Nashville Globe

Nashville Banner

1-4-28

Nashville, Tenn.

2625

Anniston, Ala., Star

JAN 1 1928

NO LYNCHINGS IN THIS STATE IN PAST YEAR

Only 16 Instances Of Mob Killing Recorded In United States

Tukegee, Ala., Dec. 31. (AP)—Sixteen persons, all negroes, were lynched during 1927, according to the annual lynching report made by Tuskegee Institute, here tonight. There were no lynchings in Alabama.

This compares with 30 in the year previous, 17 in 1925, 16 in 1924 and 33 in 1923.

The states in which lynchings occurred in 1927 were Mississippi, 7; Arkansas, 3; Tennessee, 2; Ken-

tucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Missouri, 1, and Texas, one.

Four of the victims were burned to death, the report said, and the bodies of two were burned after they were put to death.

Offenses with which they were charged included murder, assault, attempted assault and improper conduct.

Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs, the report says.

BUTLER MO. DEMOCRAT
JANUARY 5, 1928

Lynchings For 1927

The following is the report on lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. There were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offense charged were murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

COSHOCTON O. TRIBUNE
Jan. 3, 1928

LYNCHING IN 1927

Editor The Tribune:

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were—murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas 1.

ROBERT R. MORTON,
Principal, Tuskegee Institute

PICAYUNE, MISS., ITEM
DECEMBER 30, 1927

Mississippi Leads in Lynchings

Nearly One Half of Illegal Executions in the United States Take Place in Mississippi.

According to a report from compiled statistics gathered by the Tuskegee Normal Institute, in the department of Records and Research, 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 White and 53 Negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

DALLAS TEX. TIMES HERALD
JANUARY 1, 1928

New Low Record For Lynchings in U. S. Established

Tuskegee, Ala., Dec. 31 (INS).—The United States established a new low record for lynchings in the year just closed.

A special report issued tonight by the Tuskegee Institute records sixteen lynchings during the year, one less than the previous low record of 1925.

All the 1927 victims were negroes. Twelve were taken from the hands of the law by violence.

Lynchings in 1926 numbered thirty.

Officers of the law prevented lynchings in forty-two instances, the report added. Eight of these instances were in Northern states and thirty-four in the Southern.

The number of lynchings by states: Mississippi, 7; Arkansas, 3; Tennessee, 2; Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas, 1 each.

TROY N Y RECORD
TUESDAY, JANUARY 3, 1928.

LYNCHING TOTALS.

According to the statistics prepared by Robert R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Institute, there were 16 lynchings in 1927. This compares favorably with 1926 when the number was 30. Only a few years ago the number was 60 a year; so the tendency is rapidly downwards.

All of the lynchings were in southern states—seven in Mississippi, three in Arkansas, two in Tennessee and one each in Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas. All of those who were lynched were Negroes and seven paid the penalty for murder, two for attempted murder, two for rape and three for attemped rape. Four of them were burned to death.

No law-abiding citizen can tolerate lynch law. It speaks of savagery. It lends itself to terrible mistakes. It brutalizes people who act under mob excitement, allowing their passions to carry them out of human range and into the domain of animalism.

There is one sure cure for lynching and only one. That is justice. The justice should be of two kinds. First, there should be swift retribution for those who participate in a lynching; for they are murderers, just as truly as are those whose death they seek. Second, there should be swift punishment for the culprits themselves. Lynchings originated because people fear courts will be too lenient or execution too long delayed.

It is cases like those of Remus, Loeb, Leopold and their kind that create the lynch spirit. It is only in a very refined and civilized community that a Remus could be acquitted and could eventually go free without being visited shortly by a mob and compelled to pay the proper penalty for his crime. Fortunately, we still trust our criminals to the court and the jury. If the courts and juries continue to fail, if district attorneys and lawyers delay and accept minor pleas or secret considerations and if murderers find an easy way to freedom through the insane asylum, as did Thaw, it will be difficult to keep the tide of lynching ebbing. The matter is in the hands of the ent, that southern courts and juries people. One cannot expect, at pres- will invariably convict members of a lynching mob; but it is sure that there will be a gradual decline of the spirit if judges and jurors can be trusted and if lawyers and district attorneys are not permitted to delay undu- the trial of murderers for their crimes.

LONGVIEW TEX. NEWS
DECEMBER 29, 1927

One Person Lynched in Texas in '27

Texas had only one "rope party" in 1927, when 26 persons were lynched in the United States, according to Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, of Tuskegee, Alabama.

This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of these cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thuss aved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were—murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

Lynchings-1927
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan.—Dec.

2626

URBANA OHIO DEMOCRAT
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31

—The Tuskegee Institute, Alabama, has compiled data on lynchings for the past year, showing a total of 16 in the country, or 14 less than last year, 17 less than 1925, and less than in the preceeding years by a comfortable margin. Officers prevented lynchings in 42 instances, the report says. Of these 34 were in southern states. All lynchings occurred in southern states.

Paterson N.J. Press Guardian

DEC 30 1927

Lynchings Decrease.

A report on lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department o Records and Research shows there were sixteen persons lynched in 1927. This is fourteen less than the number thirty for 1926, one less than the number seventeen for 1925, the same number sixteen as for 1924 and seventeen less than the number thirty-three for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were forty-two instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern states and thirty-four in Southern states. In twenty-four of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In eighteen other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, fifteen white and fifty-three negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, seven; attempted murder, two; rape, two; attempted rape, three; improper conduct, one; charge not reported, one.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, three; Kentucky, one; Louisiana, one; Mississippi, seven; Missouri, one; Tennessee, two; Texas, one.

EAST PALESTINE, O., LEADER
Dec. 31, 1927

Lynching Record

The Tuskegee Institute, located at Tuskegee, Alabama, makes a study of the cases of lynching in the United States, for the purpose of educating the people on this crime. The following figures, extending back to and including 1923, show a decrease in the number of lynchings in the country:

1923	23
1924	16
1925	17
1926	30
1927	16

Of the 16 lynchings this year, 12 were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers. Four of these were burned to death and two were put to death and their bodies burned. All lynched persons were Negroes. The states in which these acts took place were as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisana, 1; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2, and Texas, 1.

There were 42 instances of the prevention of lynching, eight of these being in northern states and 34 in southern states.

NEW YORK CITY TIMES
Jan. 2, 1928

SIXTEEN LYNCHINGS IN 1927.

Total Was Fourteen Less Than in 1926—Occurred in Seven States.

Special to The New York Times.

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Dec. 31.—Sixteen persons were lynched in the United States in 1927, according to the Departments of Records and Research of Tuskegee Institute. This was fourteen less than the number for 1926, one less than the number for 1925, the same number as for 1924 and seventeen less than the number for 1923.

Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death and then their bodies burned.

There were forty-two instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern States and thirty-four in Southern States. In twenty-four of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In eighteen other instances armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons—fifteen white and fifty-three negroes—were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, seven; attempted murder, two; rape, two; attempted rape, three; improper conduct, one; charge not reported, one.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas, three; Kentucky, one; Louisiana, one; Mississippi, seven; Missouri, one; Tennessee, two; Texas, one.

LITTLE ROCK ARK. GAZETTE

16 Negroes Lynched in 1927, Report Shows.

Tuskegee, Ala., Dec. 31.—(AP)—Sixteen persons, all negroes, were lynched in 1927, it was announced today by Tuskegee Institute on the basis of records compiled by its department of records and research. This compared with 30 in the previous year, 17 in 1925, 16 in 1924 and 33 in 1923.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each were listed as follows: Mississippi 7, Arkansas 3, Tennessee 2, Kentucky 1, Louisiana 1, Missouri 1, Texas 1.

Four of the victims were burned to death, the report said, and the bodies of two were burned after they had been put to death. Offenses with which they were charged included murder, assault, attempted assault and improper conduct.

The report said that of those lynched, six were taken from jails and six seized from officers of the law outside jails. It added that there were 42 instances in which officers prevented lynchings, 34 in Southern states and 8 in Northern states.

CENTERVILLE IA IOWEGIAN
DECEMBER 29, 1927

LYNCHINGS IN 1927

Some improvement was noted in 1927 in a decrease in lynchings. The Tuskegee Institute keeps a record and announces that there were sixteen persons lynched which is 14 less than 1926, one less than 1925, the same number as 1924 and seventeen less than 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law six from jails, six from officers outside of jails. Four were burned to death, two burned after they had been put to death.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In twenty-four of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augumented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were—murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state, are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

[illegible] TEX. NEWS
DECEMBER 30, 1927

Fewer Persons Are Lynched This Year Than Were in 1926

Robert R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, Alabama, has compiled figures relative to lynchings in the United States for year 1927. These are interesting. Following is what he says:

I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law out side of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were—murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

DALLAS, TEX., NEWS
JANUARY 1, 1928

Mississippi Leads in Lynchings for 1927

Special to The News.

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala., Dec. 31.—There were sixteen lynchings in the United States for the year 1927, according to figures compiled by the Tuskegee Institute. Almost half of these were in Mississippi, where the total was seven. Arkansas had three lynchings, Tennessee two and Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas each one, according to the report. All of the persons lynched were negroes.

The total for the year was the smallest of any time in the last five years, except for 1924, which also had sixteen. The 1926 total was thirty, 1925 seventeen and 1923 thirty-three. Offenses charged for 1927 were murder 7, attempted murder 2, criminal assault 2, attempted criminal assault 3, improper conduct 1 and one charge was not reported.

The report also states that forty-two attempted lynchings were prevented, eight in Northern States and thirty-four in Southern States. Sixty-eight persons were thus saved from mobs, of whom fifteen were white and fifty-three negroes.

Four of the victims were burned to death and bodies of two others were burned after they had been put to death.

MASON CITY IA GLOBE GAZETTE
DECEMBER 30, 1927

LYNCHINGS IN 1927

Lynching in this country has more or less gone out of style, it would appear from the report made by Robert R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute in Alabama. His survey shows that only 16 persons were lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number in 1926, 1 less than the number in 1925, the same number as for 1924 and 17 less than the number for 1923.

Twelve of the persons lynched, according to the Moton report, were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers outside of jails. Four persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death in other ways and then their bodies burned.

"There were 42 instances," says Mr. Moton, "in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, 8 in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 colored, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs."

All of the persons lynched this past year have been negroes, according to the colored educator. The offenses charged were: Murder 7; attempted murder 2; offenses against women or attempts 5; improper conduct 1; charge not reported 1. The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas 3; Kentucky 1; Louisiana 1; Mississippi 7; Missouri 1; Tennessee 2; Texas 1.

May Iowa remain off this list permanently

Wilmington Del. Eve. Journal
DEC 31 1927

1927 AND ITS LYNCHINGS

THE following concerning lynchings for the last year is compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research:

There were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which ofifcers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

It is gratifying to know that Delaware did not figure in that sinister work.

St. Paul, Minn., Pioneer Press
MONDAY, JANUARY 2, 1928

A HOPEFUL RECORD.

From Tuskegee Institute in Alabama, founded by Booker T. Washington for the training of colored young men and women, comes an encouraging New Year's announcement. The lynching of Negroes in the Southern states continues to be a foul blot on the fair name of America, but less and less does this crime stand as a reproach. There were 16 persons, all Negroes, lynched in the United States in 1927, and seven of these occurred in a single state, Mississippi.

By itself, that is a record shameful enough. But mob violence has been declining over a period of years, and the comparatively low number of lynchings in 1927 represents a resumption of respect for lawful processes which seem to have been interrupted in 1926. There were 33 lynchings in 1923; 16 in 1924; 17 in 1925; 30 in 1926, and now again 16 in 1927. The blackest year for which there are records was 1892, when 255 whites and Negroes were lynched. Since 1903, when the number was 135, there has been a fairly consistent progress towards complete eradication of mob murder. In 1927, there were fewer lynchings than in any other year since the Civil War except 1924, when there were also 16.

The picture, however, is not complete as it stands. It has a brighter side. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, but the authorities were not all derelict in their duty. Officers of the law prevented lynchings in 42 cases, 8 in Northern states and 34 in Southern. In 18 of these instances, armed force was used to repel would-be lynchers, and in 24 the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In all, 68 persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

It is a hopeful sign when officers in authority are shown to be firm in their determination to protect the rights of their prisoners against the inflamed passions of men before whom it would in many cases be far easier to yield than to stand ground. The connivance of authorities with mobs has been one of the notorious and shameful incidents of lynchings in the past.

The Northern states have had their own disgraces, and it ill becomes them to adopt an attitude of self-righteous condemnation toward the people of the South because this evil there runs more rampant. But the fact remains that the greater number of these crimes by far is committed in the South. Every lynching of 1927 was in the South—Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

This is a problem which belongs peculiarly to the decent and law-abiding citizens of the Southern states. Nothing will suffice for its eradication except the growth of a popular conscience which cries out against such brutalism and places authority in the hands of men who will stamp it out. Nothing could attest more surely to the emergence of that New South which is now on so many tongues as the final and complete disappearance of the mob and its barbaric orgies in this country where law is supreme.

Sandusky, Ohio, Star-Journal
Wednesday, Jan. 4, 1928

FEWER CASES OF LYNCHING.

ACCORDING to figures compiled by the Tuskegee Institute, the year 1927 witnessed fewer lynchings than any preceding year of record, with one exception, and equaled that. During the year sixteen persons were put to death by mobs. This is fourteen less than in 1926, one less than in 1925, the same number as in 1924, and seventeen less than in 1923.

Twelve of those lynched were taken from the hands of the law by mobs, six from jails, and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four were burned to death.

Perhaps the most encouraging feature of the report for the year is the fact that there were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed, or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In eighteen other instances armed force was used to repel would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, fifteen of them white, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Not so many years ago, and especially in the southern states, officers of the law made little effort to protect negro prisoners from mobs. Times are changing.

Mississippi holds the unenviable 1927 record for lynchings, with a total of seven. Arkansas follows with three, Tennessee with two, and Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas report one each. Thus 41 out of the 48 states have a clean slate. We are glad that Ohio is one of them.

ASHTABULA, O., BEACON
Jan. 5, 1928

LYNCH 16 IN U. S. IN 1927

Decrease Is Shown In Last Year

Sixteen persons were lynched in seven states during 1927, according to a report sent out by the Tuskegee Institute, Alabama.

This is 14 less than the previous year, one less than in 1925, the same number as in 1924, and 17 less than in 1923. Twelve of those who were hanged were taken from officials, six from jails and six from officers outside of jails. Four were burned to death, two were killed and their bodies burned.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The states in which the lynchings took place were Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

TEMPLE, TEX., TELEGRAM
DECEMBER 23, 1927

Lynchings on Decrease.

(Associated Press Dispatch)

Washington, Dec. 22.—Lynching is on the decrease in the south, Robert R. Moton, principal of the Tuskegee Institute, told President Coolidge today during a call at the White House.

WICHITA FALLS TEX. RECORD
DECEMBER 30, 1927

Lynchings Reduced In 1927 as Compared to 1926

NEW YORK, Dec. 29. (AP)—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People today made public a survey showing a decrease in the number of lynchings from 34 in 1926 to 16 in 1927. Seven men were lynched in Mississippi this year, the report showed, three in Tennessee and Arkansas, two in Florida and one each in Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri, North Carolina, Texas and California. All but two of the victims were negroes.

NEBRASKA CITY NEB. PRESS
DECEMBER 30, 1927

Lynchings.

FEWER lynchings in America. Only 16 persons—all in the hectic southern states—were illegally put to death in 1927, the record shows. The reduction is about 50 per cent over that of 1926, according to figures prepared and disseminated by Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, a Negro college.

Lynchings-1927
Reports on, sent Press.

Jan. - Dec.

2627

Thomasville, Ga. Enterprise

DEC 29 1927

LYNCHINGS SHOW DECREASE

New York, Dec. 29 (AP)—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People today made public a survey showing a decrease in the number of lynchings from 34 in 1926 to 21 in 1927. All but two of the victims were negroes.

The report did not reveal any lynchings in Georgia.

MACON (GEORGIA) TELEGRAPH
January 1, 1928

SIXTEEN VICTIMS OF MOBS IN 1927

Tuskegee Figures Show None Lynched in Georgia

MANY KILLINGS PREVENTED

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala., Dec. 31.—Figures compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research show there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 in 1926, one less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There was 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississisippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas. 1.

HUGO OK NEWS
JANUARY 3, 1928

LYNCHING IS ON DECLINE IN U. S.

Fourteen Less In 1927 Than In 1926, Says Report

The following report on lynching in the United States during the past year has been compiled by R. R. Morton, principal of Tuskegee Institute of Alabama.

Morton's report follows:

"I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four o the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances armed forces were used to repel the would be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were—murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

LEAVENWORTH KS. TIMES
DECEMBER 27, 1927

BECOMING MORE CIVILIZED

For years the Tuskegee (Ala.) Department of Records and Research has kept a record of the number of lynchings in this country. Following is the report for the year just closing.

There were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails, 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were—murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

Two things in the report are very gratifying. One is that the number of lynchings continues to keep away below what it was immediately after the World War and the other that there is a marked decrease of lynchings for the crime against women which held so large a place years ago. Perhaps, also, we should rejoice at the evidence given that officers prevented lynchings. In that, however, several things are to be considered. If the officers actually prevented so large a number of lynchings it would indicate that the disposition of the people to take the law into their own hands had not changed very greatly. But we are inclined to suspect that in many of the cases there was no real disposition to lynch and in others, perhaps, the officers sought credit where none was due.

Right at this Christmas season we prefer to believe that there is an increasing desposition among the people to rely upon the law, and we are willing to believe that the officers of the law are becoming more determined that the law shall take its course.

FREMONT NEB. TRIBUNE
JANUARY 3, 1928

Lynching Record

Tuskegee Institute, Alabama, Jan. 1—Editor Tribune: I send you the folowing concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, one less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were—murder 7, attempted murder 2, rape 2, attempted rape 3, improper conduct 1, charge not reported 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas 3, Kentucky 1, Louisiana 1, Mississippi 7, Missouri 1, Tennesee 2, Texas 1.

Yours very truly,
R. R. Moton,
Principal

Wash. D. C. Herald

JAN 2 - 1928

Low Record For Lynchings

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 1.—The United States established a new low record for lynchings in the year just closed.

A special report issued tonight by Tuskegee Institute records 16 lynchings during the year—one less than the previous low record of 1925.

All the 1927 victim were negroes. Twelve were taken from the hands of the law by violence.

Lynchings in 1926 numbered 30.

Officers of the law prevented lynching in 42 instances, the report added. Eight of these instances were in Northern States and 34 in the South.

The number of lynchings by States: Mississippi, 7; Arkansas, 3 Tennessee, 2; Kentucky, Louisiana Missouri and Texas, 1 each.

N. Y. City Times

JAN 2 1928

SIXTEEN LYNCHINGS IN 1927

Total Was Fourteen Less Than in 1926—Occurred in Seven States.

Special to The New York Times.

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 1.—Sixteen persons were lynched in the United States in 1927, according to the Departments of Records and Research of Tuskegee Institute. This was fourteen less than the number for 1926, one less than the number for 1925, the same number as for 1924 and seventeen less than the number for 1923.

Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death and two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were forty-two instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern States and thirty-four in Southern States. In twenty-four of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In eighteen other instances armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons—fifteen white and fifty-three negroes—were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, seven; attempted murder, two; rape, two; attempted rape, three; improper conduct, one; charge not reported, one.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas, three; Kentucky, one; Louisiana, one; Mississippi, seven; Missouri, one; Tennessee, two; Texas, one.

Record
St Augustine Fla

DEC 22 1927

Tuskegee Head Says Lynching In South Is on Decrease

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—(AP) Lynching is on the decrease in the south, Robert R. Moton, principal of the Tuskegee Institute, told President Coolidge today during a call at the White House.

Orlando Fla. Sentinel

DEC 22 1927

LYNCHING ON THE WANE

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—(AP)—Lynching is on the decrease in the South, Robert R. Moton, principal of the Tuskegee Institute, told President Coolidge today during a call at the White House.

RENO, NEV., GAZETTE
DECEMBER 28, 1927

LYNCHINGS ARE FEWER

AN IMPROVEMENT in the attitude of the country toward lynching would appear to be shown by a report furnished from Tuskogee Institute, the negro training school founded by the late Booker Washington. The institute makes a report on lynchings annually and sends its findings to the newspapers in every state. This year, the report shows, there were sixteen of them, which is fourteen less than in 1926. In forty-two other cases officers of the law prevented mob action, thirty-four of these instances of protecting colored prisoners occurring in the South.

Baltimore Sun

DEC 23 1927

TUSKEGEE COUNT SHOWS LYNCHINGS ON DECREASE

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22—(AP)—Lynching is on the decrease in the south, Robert R. Moton, principal of the Tuskegee institute, told President Coolidge today during a call at the white house.

The negro educator said the President inquired specifically into the situation regarding lynching and mob violence and that he was able to report that on the basis of present indications, the number of lynchings for this year would be substantially below those for 1926.

WASHINGTON C. H. O., HERALD
Dec. 30, 1927

SIXTEEN LYNCHED DURING PAST YEAR

RECORDS SHOW DECLINE OF FOURTEEN

According to information compiled by Tuskegee Institute, of Alabama, there [illegible] persons lynched in the United States during the past year, or 14 less than in 1926, and one less than the number in 1925, the same number as in 1924 and 17 less than in 1923.

All of those lynched were negroes. Of the lynchings, Arkansas had three, Kentucky one, Louisiana one, Mississippi one, Tennessee two and Texas one.

[illegible] REVIEW
SUNDAY, JANUARY 1, 1928.

Lynching Less Popular.

There were sixteen persons lynched in 1927, according to statistics mailed out by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute of Alabama. This is fourteen less than the number for 1926, one less than the number for 1925 and seventeen less than the number for 1923.

More interesting is that there were forty-two instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states, and thirty-four in southern states.

Every year national sentiment turns more strongly against mob justice. Lynchings have no place in modern times, and are in direct violation of law. The number is still just sixteen too high. There are no circumstances that warrant lynching. If a crime is committed for which the penalty is death, then it should be administered by the state.

Alexandria, La., Town Talk

DEC 29 1927

21 Lynchings in 1927, Only One in Louisiana

NEW YORK, Dec. 29.—(By A. P.)—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People today made public a survey showing a decrease in the number of lynchings from 34 in 1926 to 21 in 1927. Seven men were lynched in Mississippi this year, the report showed, three in Tennessee and Arkansas, two in Florida and one each in Louisiana, Missouri, North Carolina, Texas and California, and on the Kentucky-Virginia border. All but two of the victims were negroes.

ATLANTA, GA., Constitution

DEC 23 1927

MOTON REPORTS LYNCHING CASES FEWER IN SOUTH

Washington, December 22.—(AP)—Lynching is on the decrease in the south, Robert R. Moton, principal of the Tuskegee institute, told President Coolidge today during a call at the white house.

The negro educator said the president inquired specifically into the situation regarding lynching and mob violence and that he was able to report that on the basis of present indications the number of lynchings for this year would be substantially below those of 1926.

Mr. Coolidge also received a report on the hospital located at the institute which some time ago was placed entirely under the jurisdiction of a negro personnel. Moton declared that the hospital was showing fine progress.

Thomasville, Ga., Press

DEC 30 1927

According to Research recordsof Tuskegee Institute, there were only sixteen lynchings throughout the entire United States in 1927. All the parties lynched were negroes, and the lynchings were in the following states: Arkansas three, Kentucky one, Tennesee two, Louisiana one, Mississippi seven, Missouri one, Texas one. This is fourteen less than were lynched in 1926.

Birmingham, Ala., The Post

JAN 2 1928

LYNCHINGS DROP

Report Shows 16 Killed By Mobs In 1927

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 2.—Records compiled in the department of research at Tuskegee Institute revealed today that 16 negroes were lynched in 1927 compared with 30 in 1926, 17 in 1924 and 33 in 1923.

Mississippi heads the list of states in which lynchings occurred, with seven; Arkansas had 3; Tennessee, 2; Kentucky 1; Louisiana 1; Missouri, 1; Texas 1.

CAIRO [illegible] BULLETIN
SUNDAY, JANUARY 1, 1928

THE COUNTRY'S LYNCHINGS

In the news columns of The Bulletin this morning is one item that is worthy of more than passing notice, the number of lynchings in this country during the past year. And all the victims of mob law were negroes. But the worst crimes of the country the past year were not committed by the colored citizenship; the whites head the list. The gangsters and the child murderers are whites. Hickman is a white man; the brutal slayers of the little Franks boy, Loeb and Leopold, are white men.

If lynchings were caused by the atrocity and fiendishness of the crime committed, then there would have been a lynching out in Los Angeles last week and the slayers of Bobbie Franks would not be the cynosure of the morbidly curious in the prison at Joliet. Instead of being well fed and cared for, these fiends would be dangling from the limb of a tree or the cross arm of a telephone pole.

Lynchings are never justified where the law functions, and where the sheriffs are not craven cowards, and the judges scalawags. The fact that nearly all of the people lynched are blacks demonstrates that there is no justice in a lynching. With all of the gang murders that are committed in St. Louis from day to day and from week to week, there ought to be a lynching to every murder, if the aim of lynching were to put an end to crime. As i

Offenses with which they were charged included, murder, assault, attempted assault and improper conduct. The report said that of those lynched six were taken from jails and six seized from officers outside jails. It added that there were 42 instances in which officers prevented lynchings, 34 in southern states and eight in northern states.

A large number of Ne
is, lynching is the biggest of all crimes. All of these cases
groes are lynched for rape, or attempted rape. Most rape cases are preceded by flir-
are open to grave suspicion. The correct lynching
tation, initiated by the victims themselves. The correct lynching
reports in this country are made by Dr. Robert R. Moton who is the
able and conscientious principal of Tuskegee Normal and Indus-
trial Institute, founded by Booker T. Washington for the training
of colored young men and women at Tuskegee Institute, Ala-
bama. The motive is obvious, but pardonable, because somebody
ought to do this distasteful and unpopular job. The object of
Doctor Moton is that lynchings are not conducted in the interests
of law and order.

Jan. – Dec.

2628

Lynchings-1927
Reports on, sent Press.

CHATTANOOGA, TENN. TIMES
JANUARY 2, 1928

SIXTEEN LYNCHINGS FOR YEAR NOW PAST

Tuskegee Report Shows All Dead Were Negroes.

Tennessee Third on List With Two—Mississippi Leads With Seven.

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 1 (AP).—Sixteen persons, all negroes, were lynched during 1927, it was announced today by Tuskegee institute on the basis of records compiled by its department of records and research. This compared with thirty in the previous year, seventeen in 1925, sixteen in 1924 and thirty-three in 1923.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each were listed as follows: Mississippi, 7; Arkansas, 3; Tennessee, 2; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

Four of the victims were burned to death, the report said, and the bodies of two were burned after they had been put to death. Offenses with which they were charged included murder, assault, attempted assault and improper conduct.

The report said that of those lynched six were taken from jails and six seized from officers of the law outside jails. It added that there were forty-two instances in which officers prevented lynchings, thirty-four in southern states and eight in northern states.

This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926 one less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law; six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death; two put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

Yours very truly,
R. R. MORTON,
Principal.

This Clipping From
Fitzgerald, Ga., Leader

DEC 29 1927

Lynchings Compiled By Tuskegee Institute

Tuskegee Institute, Ala.,
December 29, 1927.

Dear Sir;

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research. I find there were 16 persons in 1927.

COLUMBUS, OHIO
Dispatch
JAN 1 1928

THE 1927 LYNCHING REPORT.

It is gratifying to learn that 1927 swung back to the downward trend in the number of lynching cases. For some years past the number of lives lawlessly taken in this manner had been decreasing, until the total was but a fraction of what it used to be, before public sentiment against the practice had been aroused. In 1926, however, the pendulum turned the other way, and 34 lynchings were recorded. This year, the number dropped to 21, the victims of all but two of which were of the colored race. This indicates that the increase of 1926 was sporadic, and not the result of any widespread reaction in the wrong direction. There is no indication, we think, that the country will ever go back to the baleful record of the past in this particular form of violence.

In the annual message of President Coolidge, reference was made to this crime, with the suggestion that congress should do anything which constitutionally can be done to bring it under control. This vague form of statement seems to indicate the president's belief that such a federal anti-lynching bill as has been pressed in recent sessions of congress would not stand the test of constitutionality. An act of congress, with the constitution remaining as it is, cannot validate a shift of police power from the state courts to federal jurisdiction. We believe that the same pressure of public sentiment which has already wrought so great a reduction in the number of lynchings will be more effective, in the long run, than any shifting of jurisdiction. Mississippi, with one-third of last year's mob murders of this type to her discredit, is the state where the influence of public opinion is now most needed.

TIMES
Fort Pierre, S. D.
JAN 5 1928

It is interesting and gratifying to note that lynchings appear to be on the decline, though 16 persons, all negroes, met mob death in 1927. Arkansas is charged with 3 of these lynchings, Kentucky 1, Louisana 1, Mississippi 7, Missouri 1, Tennessee 2 and Texas 1. Thirty persons were lynched in the United States in 1926.

TIMES UNION
NEW HAVEN, CONN.
JAN 5 1928

LYNCHING FALLS OFF

There were 16 lynchings in the South in 1927—so reports Tuskegee Institute.

This compares with 30 for 1926; 17 for 1925; 16 for 1924, and 33 for 1923. Thus it is seen that the marked improvement that began in 1923 has been continued throughout another year. The average number of lynchings for the last five years has been 22; for the preceding five year period it was 66.

Hope is general that mob law will never again disgrace this country, but it is a hope that is not full of bright prospects.

However conditions in the South are improving and the sentiment gainst lynching is becoming more nd more pronounced.

Statute law is not to be superceded by mob law—that's certain.

Capital
DES MOINES
IOWA
DEC 29 1927

THE YEAR'S LYNCHINGS.

Tuskegee Institute, Ala.—To the Editor: I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee institute in the department of records and research. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 23 in 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were—murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

R. R. Moton, Principal.

THE PASSING SHOW.

JOHNSON CITY, TENN., CHRONICLE
DECEMBER 30, 1927

16 Lynched In 1927, Reported By Tuskegee

Principal R. R. Moton Gives Analysis of Lynchings In United States During Year Comparative Figures

The following report concerning lynchings for the past year is compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research, and shows:

There were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, one less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number, 16, as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lunchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

COURIER
Bowling Green, Ky.
JAN 4 1928

Lynching Statistics

The following statistics, given today by Tuskegee Institute of Alabama regarding lynching in America during 1927 are interesting, especially to the law-abider, who notices with a degree of satisfaction that the "Judge Lynch" law has decreased in a number of states. However, Kentucky, with an unstained record in 1926, had one lynching during the past year.

The statistics follow:

There were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from deaths at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

POST-DISPATCH
ST. LOUIS, MO.
DEC 31 1927

THE WAY TO REDUCE LYNCHINGS.

There is a gratifying note in the record of lynchings for the past year, compiled by the Department of Records and Research of the Tuskegee Institute. There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, 34 of them in Southern states. In 24 of these cases effective precautions were taken, through the removal of prisoners or placing of guards. In 18 armed forces were used to repel lynchers.

Mississippi leads the list with seven lynchings, Arkansas follows with three, Tennessee with two, and there were one each in Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas. The lynchings were less by 14 this year than in 1926. Four Negroes were burned. The bodies of two were burned after they were killed.

The encouraging sign is the action of officers of the law to protect prisoners from mob violence. When law officers do their full duty in protecting prisoners, lynchings will be reduced to a minimum. It is the one effective preventive.

EAGLE
Dothan, Ala.
JAN 7 1928

OUT TO WIN AGAIN

Out of the 15 lynchings in Southern States in 1927 Mississippi was credited with 7. Which is not exactly news, for Mississippi usually lynches more than any other State.

The new year is less than a week old, but Mississippi has already demonstrated that she is alert to defend her crown in 1928. Thursday a group of her patriots made an effort to lynch a young man whose wife lost her life when their house burned. They didn't believe him when he said it was an accident, and that he dashed into the house and saved his baby but was unable to save his wife.

It is our guess that Mississippi will continue to lead Southern States in lynchings for many years to come, for the idea of mob law cannot be dissuaded from the minds of certain citizens of that State. It will require education among the young generation.

LONGVIEW, TEX., NEWS
DECEMBER 29, 1927

One Person Lynched in Texas in '27

Texas had only one "rope party" in 1927, when 26 persons were lynched in the United States, according to Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, of Tuskegee, Alabama.

This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of these cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thuss aved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were—murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

SUN
BALTIMORE, MD.
JAN 10 1928

THE CRIME PROBLEM.

In the year 1927 State's Attorney O'Conor sent 4,817 cases to the criminal courts, convictions resulting in 85 per cent. of them, demonstrating again that in the war on crime we cannot look for much speedier action or larger success in securing punishment of the guilty actually brought to trial. There is a good deal more to do in the matter of detection and arrest, improvement in which may be had by building up the morale and efficiency of the Police Department, though it is doubtless safe to assume that for much greater success in this direction the taxpayer must be willing to pay for a larger and better police force.

There is one phase of the crime problem, however, in which we are making slow progress—namely, with the type of offenders who enter our prisons and come out again to commit fresh crime, the recidivist. As some students of penology say, it is the criminal and not the crime which needs attention. The point is illustrated here and elsewhere so often that when serious crimes are committed the police immediately check up on the regulars who happen to be at liberty. On Sunday in Chicago three bandits attempted a hold-up, two being killed. The three were ex-convicts. In this city yesterday a Negro out of the Penitentiary but a few weeks was resentenced for twenty years for another crime. The story is so common that it does not need emphasis. The confirmed criminal is the present greatest crime menace.

The indeterminate sentence and the more careful study being given the mentality of prison inmates show recognition of the gravity of the menace, and gradually ways may be found to abate it. Governor Smith's proposal to study new methods of throwing light on the problem by giving convicted persons into the hands of specialists, who would decide what course to pursue with them, is indicative of shrewd interest. Certainly, until advances made in coping with those who make crime a trade, the most energetic efforts in temporarily curbing their anti-social acts will continue to lose much of their effect.

Lynchings-1927
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan. – Dec.

2629

OCALA, FLA
Star
JAN 3 1928

16 PERSONS LYNCHED IN 1927

Statistics made public by the Tuskegee Institute, negro college located at Tuskegee, Ala., show that the United States established a new low record for lynching in the year just closed. There were 16 lynchings during 1927, one less than the previous low record of 1925. While all of these lynchings are credited to southern states none occurred in Florida. This is a record that Florida should point to with pride. Though we have had a multiplicity of crime during the past twelve months not once have the people taken the law into their own hands, though they came close to it in the Levins case. To Sheriff Hiers of Hillsborough county goes the credit for keeping Florida out of the 1927 lynching statistics.

Crear, S. C., Citizen
JAN 5 1928

16 PERSONS LYNCHED IN 1927

The following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research.

There were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missiuri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

Yours very truly,
R. R. MORTON, Principal.

SAVANNAH, GA., Press

DEC 29 1927

ONLY 16 LYNCHINGS IN U. S. LAST YEAR, TUSKEGEE REPORTS

GEORGIA HAS CLEAN SLATE; 30 LYNCHED IN 1926

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala., Dec. 29, 1927.—The following concerning lynchings for the past year was compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research. There were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than for 1926, 1 less than for 1925, the same number as for 1924 and 17 less than for 1923. Of the persons lynched 12 were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

Forty-two Averted.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings—in Northern states 8 and in Southern states 34. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons—15 whites and 53 negroes—were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All Negroes.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; assault, 2; attempted assault, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

COLUMBIA, S. C., Star
JAN 1 1928

SIXTEEN LYNCHED DURING PAST YEAR

Lowest Record Since 1924, According to Tuskegee Institute Data.

Tuskegee, Ala., Dec. 31 (By A. P.)—Sixteen persons, all Negroes, were lynched during 1927, it was announced today by Tuskegee institute on the basis of records compiled by its department of research and records. This compared with 30 in the previous year, 17 in 1925, 16 in 1924 and 33 in 1923.

Four of the victims were burned to death, the report said, and the bodies of two were burned after they had been put to death. Offenses with which they charged included murder, assault, attempted assault and improper conduct.

The report said that of those lynched, six were taken from jails and six seized from officers of the law outside jails. It added that there were 42 instances in which officers prevented lynchings, 34 in Southern states and eight in Northern states.

Hartwell, Ga., Sun
JAN 6 1928

IN THE SUN'S MAIL BAG

Atlanta, Ga., Dec. 31, 1927

Gentlemen:—As I subscribed for your paper to keep up with certain legal sales, I find now I will have no further need for the paper, and you will therefore kindly discontinue my subscription.

However, I wish to say I think you have one of the best county publications I have read.

Very truly yours,
HEARD W. DENT,
Attorney-at-Law

—o—

Sixteen Lynchings In 1927.

Tuskegee Institute, Ala.,
Dec. 31, 1927.

Dear Sir:—I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

WALHALLA, S. C., Courier
JAN 4 1928

Lynchings Decreased During Year Past

Tuskegee Institute, Alabama.
Dec. 31, 1927.

Following is the record of lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research:

There were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number (30) for 1926, 1 less than the number (17) for 1925, the same numebr (16) as for 1924, and 17 less than the number (33) for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern States and 34 in Southern States. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons (15 white and 53 negroes) were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder 7, attempted murder 2, rape 2, attempted rape 3, improper conduct 1, charge not reported 1.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas 3, Kentucky 1, Louisiana 1, Mississippi 7, Missouri 1, Tennessee 2, Texas 1.

Sumter, S. C., Item
JAN 2 1928

Sixteen Persons Lynched In 1927

Tuskegee, Ala., Jan. 1.—(AP)—Sixteen persons, all negroes, were lynched during 1927, it was announced today by Tuskegee Institute on the basis of record compiled by its department of research and records. This compared with 30 in the previous year, 17 in 1925, 16 in 1924 and 33 in 1923.

Four of the victims were burned to death, the report said, and the bodies of two were burned after they had been put to death. Offenses with which they were charged included, murder, assault, attempted assault and improper conduct.

The report said that of those lynched, six were taken from jails and six seized from officers of the law outside jails. It added that there were 42 instances in which officers prevented lynchings, 34 in Southern states and eight in Northern states.

ANDERSON, S. C., INDEPENDENT
JAN 3 1928

16 NEGROES LYNCHED DURING PAST ANNUM

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 2.—Sixteen persons all negroes, were lynched during 1927, it was announced today by Tuskegee institute, on the basis of record compiled by its department of research and records. This compared with 30 in the previous year, 17 in 1925, 16 in 1924 and 33 in 1923.

Four of the victims were burned to death, the report said, and the bodies of two were burned after they had been put to death. Offenses with which they were charged included murder, assault, attempt assault and improper conduct.

The report said that of those lynched, six were taken from jails and six seized from officers of the law outside jails. It added that there were 42 instances in which officers prevented lynchings, 34 in southern states and eight in northern states.

Dalton, Ga., Citizen

JAN 5 1928

Georgia's Slate Clear of Lynchings in 1927

Georgia's slate is clear of lynchings for the year just ended while the United States as a whole, in 1927, fell 14 short of the number of lynchings perpetrated in 1926.

There were 16 persons lynched in the states in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923, 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails, 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and their bodies burned.

There were 72 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers, 68 persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were—murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3 improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

Jackson, Ga., Progress-Argus

JAN 6 1928

COUNTRY HAD FE LYNCHINGS IN 1927

TOTAL OF 16 PERSONS PUT TO DEATH IN 1927 COMPARED WITH 30 PREVIOUS YEAR, IS REPORT

According to figures compiled by the department of records and research of Tuskegee Institute Tuskegee, Ala., there were 16 persons lynched in the United States in 1927. This compares with 30 in 1926, showing a decrease of 14. In 1925 17 persons lynched, 16 in 1924, 33 in 1923. Of the 16 persons lynched, 12 were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of the jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances of officers of the law prevented lynchings.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offences charged were Murder, 7; attemped murder, 2; rape, 2; attemped rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1; The states in which lynching occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

JAMESACE MO DEMOCRAT

JANUARY 6, 1928

STATISTICAL REPORT OF 1927 LYNCHINGS

The following report is made concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research:

There were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924, and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texis 1.

Jackson, Ga., Progress-Argus

JAN 6 1928

GEORGIA'S GOOD RECORD

Georgia went through the year 1927 without a single lynching, according to statistics compiled by the Tuskegee Institute. The country as a whole had sixteen lynchings last year, a decrease of fourteen from the previous year.

This is a good showing for Georgia and for the country.

There is no excuse for lynch law. The courts should mete out justice under any and all conditions. It also goes without saying that the cause of lynchings should be removed. Technicalities and the law's delay do as much as anything else to bring about mob violence. When the country is assured beyond question that swift and speedy justice will be executed, there will be a still greater decrease in the number of lynchings.

In its stand for orderly justice last year Georgia has much for which to be proud. Let us hope that the same good record will be kept up this year and throughout all the years to come.

ATLANTA, GA., Constitution

DEC 30 1927

LYNCHING SURVEY SHOWS DECREASE DURING LAST YEAR

New York, December 29.—(AP)—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People today made public a survey showing a decrease in the number of lynchings from 34 in 1926 to 21 in 1927.

Seven men were lynched in Mississippi this year, the report showed, three in Tennessee and Arkansas, two in Florida and one each in Louisiana, Missouri, North Carolina, Texas and California, and on the Kentucky-Virginia border. All but two of the victims were negroes.

JACKSONVILLE, FLA., Times-Union

JAN 1 1928

Lynchings Show a Decline in 1927

The Associated Press.

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Dec. 31.—Sixteen persons, all negroes, were lynched during 1927, it was announced today by Tuskegee Institute on the basis of records compiled by its department of records and research. This compared with thirty in the previous year, 17 in 1926, 16 in 1924 and 33 in 1923.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each were listed as follows:

Mississippi, 7; Arkansas, 3; Tennessee, 2; Kentucky 1; Louisiana, 1; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

Four of the victims were burned to death, the report said, and the bodies of two were buried after they had been put to death. Offenses with which they were charged included murder, assault, attempted assault and improper conduct.

The report said that of those lynched, six were taken from jails and six seized from officers of the law outside jails. It added that there were forty-two instances in which officers prevented lynchings, thirty-four in southern states and eight in northern states.

NASHVILLE, TENN., Banner

JAN 2 1928

THE LYNCHING RECORD.

There is, of course, a certain amount of gratification over the fact that Tuskegee Institute's annual report on lynching shows a new low record of these brutal crimes for the United States, but the people of this section must still hang their heads in shame when the matter comes up for discussion. There were sixteen instances of mob violence in the country during the year just past and every one of them occurred in the South. Mississippi led the roll of dishonor with seven lynchings, Arkansas had three, Tennessee two, and Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas one each. All the victims of organized lawlessness were Negroes, and there was not in evidence after any single one of these crimes the definite expression of outraged public sentiment that would have resulted in running down and bringing to justice those who were responsible for putting an indelible blot on the record of the states where lynch law took things into its hands. The foregoing words are not agreeable, but they are true, and only through looking such situations fair in the face may the South hope to redeem itself once and for all from the worst disgrace that now attaches to it.

Though the South may not feel otherwise than deeply shamed at the phase of the Tuskegee report that deals with lynchings actually perpetrated, it has ground for hope and congratulation in the large number of instances in which courageous officers of the law foiled the plans of mobs and saved their prisoners from run, rope or fire. Lynchings were prevented on no less than forty-two occasions in 1927, and thirty-four of these instances took place in the South. It is a state of affairs that carries great promise of the final eradication of mob law in this section. It may also be said that the South owes no greater debt of gratitude to any of its citizens than to the men who defied mobs and prevented the utterly disgraceful and inexcusable crimes they would have committed.

If the states of the South desire a model or a pattern in the task of keeping their records clear of the blot of lynching, they need seek no further than North Carolina. Several years ago it was made apparent to those who entertained thoughts of taking the law into their own hands that they would do so at their own great risk. On more than one occasion the whole force of North Carolina's power was turned to the discovery, apprehension and punishment of the participants in a bit of mob violence. The offenders were hunted out, tried, convicted and sentenced. Furthermore, and fully as important, these lynchers were not relieved of their prison sentences by the action of a governor. It became an exceedingly perilous business to join a mob in North Carolina and there have been no mobs worth the mention since. In other words, the best people of North Carolina asserted themselves and demonstrated in practical fashion their horror and disgust and shame at lynching. The emotions felt by North Carolinians are the same as those of the vast majority of people in other states of the South, but they must be expressed in practical ways if they are to be properly effective as a curb to the terrible practices in question.

Lynchings - 1927
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan. - Dec.

2630

NEW ORLEANS, LA., State

DEC 29 1927

Lynchings Decrease In South This Year

NEW YORK, Dec. 29.—(By A. P.)—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People today made public a survey showing a decrease in the number of lynchings from 34 in 1926 to 21 in 1927. Seven men were lynched in Mississippi this year, the report showed; three in Tennessee and Arkansas, two in Florida and one each in Louisiana, Missouri, North Carolina, Texas and California, and on the Kentucky-Virginia border. All but two of the victims were negroes.

Birmingham, Ala., News

JAN 1 1928

LYNCHING REPORT SHOWS 16 VICTIMS

Mississippi Leads With Seven Negroes Killed By Mobs During Past Year

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Dec. 31.—Sixteen negroes were lynched in seven states in 1927, 14 less than in 1926, one less than in 1925, the same number in 1924 and 17 less than in 1923, according to figures compiled by the department of records and research of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, Robert R. Moton, principal, made public Saturday.

Twelve of the negroes lynched were taken from officers, six from jails and six from officers outside of jails. Four of the victims were burned to death and two were put to death and then their bodies burned, the report stated.

The offenses charged against the negroes lynched were: Murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; attack, 2; attempted attack, 3; improper conduct, 1 and one charge was not reported.

Lynchings were prevented 42 times, the report further stated, eight times in Northern states and 34 times in Southern states. In 24 of the cases, the prisoners were removed, the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In other instances, armed force was employed to halt attempted lynching. The report further reveals that 15 white and 53 negroes were, as a result of precaution taken, saved from the hands of lynching mobs.

Lynchings occurred in the following states: Arkansas 3, Kentucky 1, Louisiana 1, Mississippi 7, Missouri 1, Tennessee 2, and Texas 1.

Rome, Ga., News-Tribune

JAN 1 1928

Georgia Has No Lynching Against Name During 1927

Report on lynchings occurring in the United States during 1926, as compiled by Robert R. Morton, principal of Tuskegee Institute, received in Rome yesterday shows Georgia's slate clean for the year, while there was a decrease of 14 in the total lynchings for the year.

The Morton report was as follows:

"I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

"There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

"All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were —murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

"The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1."

SUN
BALTIMORE, MD.

JAN 4 1928

Georgia And Alabama Join No-Lynching States.

From the Atlanta Constitution.

THE department of records and research of Tuskegee Institute has completed its annual survey as to lynchings in the United States during 1927.

In the entire country there were only sixteen lynchings in 1927, which is fourteen less than the number for 1926.

The States in which lynchings occurred, and the number in each State, are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2, and Texas 1.

It is noticeable that, along with Georgia, there were no 1927 lynchings in either of the Carolinas or in Florida, or Alabama. That is, the South Atlantic seaboard States, or the Southeast proper, made a record in 1927 so commendable in this respect that it is deserving of comment and general national knowledge. It illustrates that in this great section of the country there is developing a stronger feeling for the supremacy of law and order, and for the integrity of constituted authority. The press crusades against floggings, and other evidences of mob violence, and the courage of enforcement and court officials, along with a stronger public sentiment against mob violence, have been contributing factors toward this improved situation.

Cedartown, Ga. Standard

JAN 5 1928

There were 16 persons lynched in 927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 s for 1924, and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned. There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augumented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel he would-be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 negroes, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs. All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 7; attempted murder, 3; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1. The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1. To Georgia's credit, speaking for the good behavior of both races, we have had no lynchings during the year.

Oxford, N. C., Public Ledger

Oxford, N. C., Public Ledger

JAN 3 1928

MOB VIOLENCE WANING IN UNITED STATES

No Lynching In North Carolina During the Year.

Statistics just issued by Robert R. Morton, principal of Tuskeegee Normal and Industrial Institute, Tuskee, Ala., shows that 16 persons were lynched in the United during 1927. This is 14 less than the number in 1926, which was 30; one less than the number in 1925, which was 17; the same number was in 1924, and 17 less than the 33 lynchings in 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched this year were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside the jails. Four of the victims were burned to death and two were put to death and their bodies then burned.

Forty-two instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings are reported. Eight of these were in northern States and 34 in the States of the South. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers, and 68 persons, 15 white and 53 negroes, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: sevn for murder, two attempted murder, two rape, three attempted rape; one for improper conduct, and one in which the charge was not learned.

Mississippi led all the States in the number of lynchings, with seven. Arkansas was next with three; Tennesssee had two and one each is reported for Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas.

It will be remembered that Judge Henry A. Grady, and Sheriff Grant of Wayne County, prevented mob violence at Goldsboro a few weeks ago, which timely act keeps North Carolina on the honor roll of State.

ATLANTA, GA., Constitution

JAN 1 1928

SIXTEEN LYNCHED IN 1927, REPORT OF TUSKEGEE SAYS

Tuskegee, Ala., December 31.—(AP) Sixteen persons, all negroes, were lynched during 1927, it was announced today by Tuskegee institute on the basis of records compiled by its department of records and research. This compared with 30 in the previous year, 17 in 1925, 16 in 1924 and 33 in 1923.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each were listed as follows:

Mississippi, 7.
Arkansas, 3.
Tennessee, 2.
Kentucky, 1.
Louisiana, 1.
Missouri, 1.
Texas, 1.

Four of the victims were burned to death, the report said, and the bodies of two were burned after they had been put to death. Offenses with which they were charged included murder, assault, attempted assault and improper conduct.

The report said that of those lynched, six were taken from jails and six seized from officers of the law outside jails. It added that there weer 42 instances in which officers prevented lynchings, 34 in southern states and eight in northern states.

EL DORADO, ARK., NEWS
JANUARY 1, 1928

Sixteen Lynchings

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Dec. 31.—(AP) Sixteen persons, all negroes were lynched during 1927, it was announced today by Tuskegee Institute on the basis of records compiled by its department of records and research. This compared with 30 in the previous year, 17 in 1925, 16 in 1924 and 33 in 1923. The states in which lynchings ocurred and the number in each were listed as follows: Mississippi, 1; Arkansas, 3; Tennessee, 2; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Missouri, 1; Texas 1.

METAMORA, ILL. HERALD (wkly)
TUESDAY, JANUARY 3, 1928.

Lynchings in 1927 Less Than in Previous Year

According to statistics compiled by the Tuskegee, Alabama, Normal and Industrial institute in the department of records and research, there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 ess than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside jails, 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 whites and 53 negroes, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder 7, attempted murder 2, rape 2, attempted rape 3, improper conduct 1, charge not reported 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas 3, Kentucky 1, Louisiana 1, Mississippi 7, Missouri 1, Tennessee 2, and Texas 1.

WILMINGTON (DEL.) LEADER
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1927

16 LYNCHED IN U. S. THIS YEAR

TUSKEGEE Ala.—Sixteen persons were lynched in the United States in 1927. This is 14 less than the number (30) for 1926, one less than the number (17) or 1925, the same number as in 1924, and 17 less than the number (33) for 1923.

The above figures are revealed by the findings of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, Alabama.

Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside jails. Four of the persons were burned to death and two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers; 68 persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were murder, seven; attempted murder, two; rape, two; attempted rape three; improper conduct, one; charge not reported, one.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, three; Kentucky, one; Louisiana, one; Mississippi, one; Missouri, one; Tennessee, two; Texas, one.

DENNISON O. PARAGRAPH
TUESDAY, JANUARY 3, 1928.

TUSKEGEE NORMAL AND INDUSTRIAL INSTITUTE LETTER

Dear Sir:

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lpnched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails, 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

Yours very truly.
R. R. MOTON,
Principal.

PINE BLUFF, ARK. GRAPHIC
DECEMBER 30, 1927

16 ARE LYNCHED IN U. S. DURING YEAR JUST ENDING

Number 14 Less Than in 1926; All of Victims Are Negroes

(Special to The Graphic)

Tuskegee, Ala., Dec. 29.—That there were 16 persons lynched in the United States during the last 12 months is revealed in the report of the Department of Records and Research of Tuskegee Institute, negro, here.

This is 14 less than the 30 lynchings reported last year. Lynchings in the last few previous years were: 17 for 1925; 16 for 1924; and 33 for 1923.

Among the other features of the report are the following:

Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, seven; attempted murder, two; rape, two; attempted rape, three; improper conduct, one; charge not reported, one.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, three; Kentucky, one; Louisiana, one; Mississippi, seven; Missouri, one; Tennessee, two; Texas, one.

GRAND ISLAND, NEB., HERALD
DECEMBER 29, 1927

Decrease Is Shown In 1927 Lynching

Figures for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research show there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

SAN ANTONIO TEX. NEWS
DECEMBER 30, 1927

LYNCHINGS DECREASE DURING PAST YEAR

NEW YORK, Dec. 30 (AP).—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has made public a survey showing a decrease in the number of lynchings from 34 in 1926 to 21 in 1927. Seven men

lynched in Mississippi this year, the report showed; three in Tennessee and Arkansas, two in Florida, and one each on the Kentucky-Virginia border, Louisiana, Missouri, North Carolina, Texas and California. All but two of the victims were negroes.

LOUISVILLE, KY., COURIER-JR.
JANUARY 1, 1928

SIXTEEN NEGROES LYNCHED IN 1927

Tuskegee, Ala., Dec. 31 (AP)—Sixteen persons, all Negroes, were lynched during 1927, it was announced today by Tuskegee Institute on the basis of records compiled by its department of records and research. This compared with thirty in the previous year, seventeen in 1925, sixteen in 1924 and thirty-three in 1923.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each were listed as follows: Mississippi, 7; Arkansas, 3; Tennessee, 2; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Missouri, 1, and Texas, 1.

Four of the victims were burned to death, the report said, and the bodies of two were burned after they had been put to death. Offenses with which they were charged included murder, assault, attempted assault and improper conduct.

The report said that of those lynched, six were taken from jails and six seized from officers of the law outside jails. It added that there were forty-two instances in which officers prevented lynchings, thirty-four in Southern States and eight in Northern States.

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., NEWS
JANUARY 1, 1928

16 Lynchings In 1927 Equal Low Record Of 1924

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Dec. 31.—(AP)—Sixteen persons, all negroes, were lynched during 1927, it was announced Saturday by Tuskegee Institute on the basis of records compiled by its department of records and research. This compared with 30 in the previous year, 17 in 1924, and 33 in 1923.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each were listed as follows: Mississippi, 7; Arkansas, 3; Tennessee, 2; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

Four of the victims were burned to death, the report said, and the bodies of two were burned after they had been put to death. Offenses with which they were charged included murder, assault, attempted assault and improper conduct.

The report said that of those lynched, six were taken from jails and six seized from officers of the law outside jails. It added that there were 42 instances in which officers prevented lynchings, 34 in Southern states and 8 in Northern states.

Lynchings-1927
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan.-Dec.

2631

OSKALOOSA IA HERALD
JANUARY 2, 1928

TOTAL LYNCHINGS IN 1927 WAS 16

FIGURES BY TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE SHOW DECREASE.

14 LESS THAN TOTAL OF 1926

Victims Were All Negroes, Residents in Seven States—Mississippi Heads List of Illegal Hangings Wtih 7 for Year.

(United Press Dispatch)

Tuskegee Institute, Ala., Jan. 2.—Lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research numbered 16. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, one less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

Officers Prevented 42 Lynchings.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In twenty-four of the cases the prisoners were removed or the gaurds augmented or other precautions taken. In eighteen other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All Persons Lynched Were Negroes.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

COFFEYVILLE, KS, JRI
JANUARY 6. 1928

Fewer Lynchings in U. S. Last Year

Total for U. S. Reaches Sixteen; Fourteen Less Than in 1926.

Tuskegee, Ala., Jan. 6.—Statistics concerning lynchings during the past year as compiled by the Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research, show that there were sixteen persons lynched in 1927. This is fourteen less than the number thirty for 1926, one less than the number seventeen for 1925, and the same number as for 1924.

Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails, and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were forty-two instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and thirty-four in southern states. In twenty-four of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In eighteen other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, fifteen white and fifty-three negroes, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, seven; attempted murder, two; rape, two; attempted rape, three; improper conduct, one; charge not reported, one. The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, three; Kentucky, one; Louisiana, one; Tennessee, two; Mississippi, seven; Missouri, one, and Texas, one.

KANSAS CITY KS. KANSAN
JANUARY 1, 1928

FEWER LYNCHINGS IN 1927

United States Establishes Low Record of Sixteen Executions Thru Mob Violence.

Tuskegee, Ala., Dec. 31.—(INS) The United States established a new low record for lynchings in the year just closed.

A special report issued tonight by the Tuskegee Institute records sixteen lynchings during the year, one less than the previous low record of 1925.

All the 1927 victims were colored persons. Twelve were taken from the hands of the law by violence.

Lynchings in 1926 numbered thirty.

Officers of the law prevented lynchings in forty-two instances, the report added. Eight of these instances were in northern states and thirty-four in the southern. The number of lynchings by states: Mississippi, 7; Arkansas, 3; Tennessee, 2; Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas, one each.

BRADFORD PA HERALD

Sixteen Die As Victims Of Mobs In The Year '27

Tuskege, Ala., Dec. 31. (I.N.S.)—The United States established a new low record for lynching in the year just closed.

A special report issued tonight by Tuskegee institute records sixteen lynchings during the year—one less than the previous low record of 1925.

All the 1927 victims were negroes. Twelve were taken from the hands of the law by violence.

Lynchings in 1926 numbered thirty.

Officers of the law prevented lynchings in 42 instances. The report added, eight of these instances were in northern states and 34 in the south.

The number of lynchings by states:
Mississippi 7.
Arkansas 3.
Tennessee 2.
Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas. one each.

CARUTHERSVILLE MO DEMO
JANUARY 3, 1928

Lynchings Cut Almost In Half During Past Year

Fewer lynchings occurred during the year 1927 than in 1926, according to a report issued by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute at Tuskegee, Ala., today.

The report shows that 16 persons were lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number in 1926, when 30 were lynched. In 1925, 17 people were lynched; in 1924 the total was 17, and in 1923 the total was 33.

Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law—6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of those killed were burned to death, and two were put to death and their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings; 8 of those were in northern states, and 34 in southern states. In 24 of such cases, the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of those lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder 7, attempted murder 2, s tatutory charge 5, improper conduct 1, charge not reported 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas 3, Kentucky 1, Louisiana 1, Mississippi 7, Missouri 1. Tennessee 2, Texas 1.

FAIRFIELD IA LEDGER
JANUARY 4, 1928

FEWER LYNCHINGS IN YEAR 1927 TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE DECLARES

There were only 16 lynchings in the United States as compared with 30 the year before, according to the records kept by Tuskegee Institute. The number in 1927 was 17, which was one more than in 1924, while the number for 1923 was 33. Twelve of those lynched last year were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, 8 of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occured and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1 Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

DENNISON, O. PARAGRAPH
Jan. 3, 1928

TUSKEGEE NORMAL AND INDUSTRIAL INSTITUTE LETTER

Dear Sir:

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lpnched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails, 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas 1.

Yours very truly.
R. R. MOTON,
Principal.

LAWRENCE, KAS., JOURNAL-WORLD
DECEMBER 20, 1927

FEWER LYNCHINGS

Of the lynching records in the United States for 1927 at least [illegible] may be said: the country has made worse ones. The record for the present year is sixteen persons lynched. It is better than last year's record or the year before that. Only one year in the last five, 1923, had as few.

The report issued annually by R. R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial [illegible]

upon our contcmporary cvilization. Whatever lesson is read from it must be read between the lines, as it is offered always without comment, stripped down to the statement of stark facts. The Moton report for the present year is as follows:

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number, 16, as for 1924, and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., NEWS
JANUARY 1, 1928

LYNCHING REPORT SHOWS 16 VICTIMS

Mississippi Leads With Seven Negroes Killed By Mobs During Past Year

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Dec. 31.—Sixteen negroes were lynched in seven states in 1927, 14 less than in 1926, one less than in 1925, the same number in 1924 and 17 less than in 1923, according to figures compiled by the department of records and research of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, Robert R. Moton, principal, made public Saturday.

Twelve of the negroes lynched were taken from officers, six from jails and six from officers outside of jails. Four of the victims were burned to death and two were put to death and then their bodies burned, the report stated.

The offenses charged against the negroes lynched were: Murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; attack, 2; attempted attack, 3; improper conduct, 1 and one charge was not reported.

Lynchings were prevented 42 times, the report further stated, eight times in Northern states and 34 times in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed, the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In other instances armed force was employed to halt attempted lynching. The report further reveals that 15 white and 53 negroes were, as a result of precaution taken, saved from the hands of lynching mobs.

Lynchings occurred in the following states: Arkansas 3, Kentucky 1, Louisiana 1, Mississippi 7, Missouri 1, Tennessee 2, and Texas 1.

ASHLAND, O., GAZETTE
Jan. 3, 1928.

16 LYNCHED IN 1927, REPORT

Sixteen persons were lynched during the year 1927, it was announced today by Tuskegee Institute department of records and research.

This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, one less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards aug-

JOHNSON CITY, TENN., STAFF
DECEMBER 29, 1927

16 LYNCHED IN 1927, REPORTS TUSKEGEE

The following report concerning lynchings for the past year is compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and re-

arch, and shows:

There were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, one less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number, 16, as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

URBANA, O., DEMOCRAT
Dec. 31, 1927

—The Tuskegee Institute, Alabama, has compiled data on lynchings for the past year, showing a total of 16 in the country, or 14 less than last year, 17 less than 1925, and less than in the preceeding years by a comfortable margin. Officers prevented lynchings in 42 instances, the report says. Of these 34 were in southern states. All lynchings occurred in southern states.

NASHVILLE, TENN., TENNESSEAN
JANUARY 1, 1928

Lynchers Kill 16 Negroes in 1927; 2 in Tennessee

(By Associated Press)

Tuskegee, Ala., Dec. 31.—Sixteen persons all negroes, were lynched during 1927, it was announced today by Tuskegee Institute on the basis of records compiled by its department of records and research.

This, compared with 30 in the previous year, 17 in 1925, 16 in 1924, and 33 in 1923.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each are as follows:

Mississippi, 7; Arkansas, 3; Tennessee, 2; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1. Four of the victims were burned to death the report said and the bodies of two were burned after they had been put to death. Offenses with which they were charged included murder, assault, attempted assault and improper conduct.

The report said that of those lynched, six were taken from jails and six seized from officers of the law outside jails. It added that there were 42 instances in which officers prevented lynchings, 34 in Southern states and 8 in northern states.

AUSTIN TEX. AMERICAN
JANUARY 4, 1928

Lynchings for the Dead Year

THERE were 34 lynchings in the United States in the year 1926; there were 31 in 1927. Mississippi led with seven. Lynching is a popular sport in Mississippi. Mobs lynched three in Tennessee and Arkansas, two in Florida and one each on the Kentucky-Virginia border, Louisiana, Missouri, North Carolina, Texas, and California.

All but two of the victims were negroes. It appears that the ancient and refined custom of stake burning has been relegated to the dismal field of oblivion. There was a time under southern skies when the stake was as popular as the rope. Civilization is on its way.

CARTHAGE, TENN., COURIER
Thursday, Jan. 5, 1928

16 Lynchings Were Committed Last Year

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were— murder, 7; attempted murder 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Missippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

ARKADELPHIA ARK. HERALD
JANUARY 4, 1928

Ark. Is Second In Lynchings

MISSISSIPPI LED IN 1927 WITH SEVEN.

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala., Jan. 4.—Lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, one less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 35 for 1923, 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers, Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were—murder, 7; attempted murder 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The state sin which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

NEW ORLEANS, LA., STATES
DECEMBER 22, 1927

FEWER LYNCHINGS NEGRO EDUCATOR TELLS COOLIDGE

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—(By A. P.)—Lynching is on the decrease in the South, Robert R. Moton, principal of the Tuskegee Institute, told President Coolidge today during a call at the White House.

Lynchings-1927
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan.-Dec.

2632

DES MOINES IA TRIB & CAP
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1927

THE YEAR'S LYNCHINGS.

Tuskegee Institute, Ala.—To the Editor: I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee institute in the department of records and research. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 23 in 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were—murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

R. R. Moton, Principal.

HUNTSVILLE, ALA., TIMES
DECEMBER 22, 1927

LYNCHING IS DECREASING

Associated Press

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22—Lynching is on the decrease in the South, Robert W. Morton, principal of the Tuskegee institute, told President Coolidge today during a call at the white house.

DENISON (TEX.) HERALD
DECEMBER 27, 1927

LYNCHINGS SHOW DECREASE IN TEXAS

The following statement has been issued by Robert R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Institute:

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, one less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails; four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were forty-two instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern states and thirty-four in Southern states. In twenty-four of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In eighteen other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, fifteen white and fifty-three negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1, charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1, Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

VINITA, OKLA., JOURNAL
DECEMBER 29, 1927

Lynching is on the decrease in the south, Robert R. Moton, principal of the Tuskegee institute, told President Coolidge Thursday during a call at the White house.

UNION CITY, TENN., COMMERCIAL
DECEMBER 29, 1927

Sixteen Lynched In United States During Year 1927

Fourteen Less Than Number Lynched During 1926

The following information in regard to lynching in United States has just been given out by department of Records and Research of Tuskegee Institution, at Tuskegee, Ala.

There were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern States. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers, 68 persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attemped rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charged not reported, 1.

The state in which lynching occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri. 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

Bridgeport Ct. Telegram
JAN 1 1928

LYNCHINGS IN 1927

Sixteen Negroes Lynched According to Principal of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute.

To The Editor:

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923, 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons 15 white and 53 Negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were—murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows; Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

R. R. MOTON
Principal
Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute.

FT. WORTH TEX. STAR
JANUARY 1, 1928

16 NEGROES LYNCHED IN 1927, RECORDS SHOW

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Dec. 31.—Sixteen persons, all negroes, were lynched during 1927, it was announced Saturday by Tuskegee Institute on the basis of records compiled by its department of records and research. This compared with 30 in the previous year, 17 in 1925, 16 in 1924 and 33 in 1923.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number each were listed as follows:

Mississippi 7, Arkansas 3, Tennessee 2, Kentucky 1, Louisiana 1, Missouri 1, Texas 1. Four of the victims were burned to death, the report said, and the bodies of two were burned after they had been put to death.

LINCOLN NEB. STAR
DECEMBER 27, 1927

Tuskegee Head Says Lynching Decreasing

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22—(AP)—Lynching is on the decrease in the south, Robert R. Moton, principal of the Tuskegee institute, told President Coolidge today during a call at the white house.

HAZARD, KY., HERALD
Tuesday, Jan. 10, 1928

LYNCHING FALLS OFF DURING 1927

SIXTEEN MEET VIOLENT DEATH FOR CRIMES COMMITTED IN PAST YEAR; DECREASE OF FOURTEEN.

Statistics compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research show that only sixteen persons were lynched during the year 1927, a decrease of fourteen from the number of 30 for 1926. The report shows that the number of lynchings were one less than the 17 for 1925, the same number of 16 for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the number were burned to death while two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were—murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

KOLA KS. REGISTER
JANUARY 4, 1928

According to the records kept at Tuskegee Institute there were 16 lynchings in the United States during 1927, the victims being Negroes. That is 16 more than there ought to have been, and yet it is 14 fewer than there were in 1926, and that is encouraging. Another encouraging fact set forth in this Tuskegee report is that there were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, 68 persons thus being saved from death at the hands of mobs. Thirty-four of these cases of rescuing prisoners from mobs were in the southern States, and that is evidence of a growing feeling of respect for law in that section which is highly commendable.

BELOIT KS CALL
JANUARY 6, 1928

Lynchings Are Less

The Tuskegee Institute n the Department of Records and Research finds there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers, 68 persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were —murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas 1.

Times
NEW YORK CITY

JAN 2 1928

SIXTEEN LYNCHINGS IN 1927.

Total Was Fourteen Less Than in 1926—Occurred in Seven States.

Special to The New York Times.

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 1.—Sixteen persons were lynched in the United States in 1927, according to the Department of Records and Research of Tuskegee Institute. This was fourteen less than the number for 1926, one less than the number for 1925, the same number as for 1924 and seventeen less than the number for 1923.

Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death and two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were forty-two instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern States and thirty-four in Southern States. In twenty-four of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In eighteen other instances armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons—fifteen white and fifty-three negroes—were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, seven; attempted murder, two; rape, two; attempted rape, three; improper conduct, one; charge not reported, one.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas, three; Kentucky, one; Louisiana, one; Mississippi, seven; Missouri, one; Tennessee, two; Texas, one.

POPLAR BLUFF MO. REP.
JANUARY 5 192[illegible]

18 PERSONS WERE LYNCHED DURING 1927

Report of Colored Institute Shows List of Lynchings Decreased As Compared With 1926.

Fewer lynchings occurred during the year 1927 than in 1926, according to a report issued by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute at Tuskegee, Ala., today.

The report shows that 16 persons were lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number in 1926, when 30 were lynched. In 1925, seventeen people were lynched; in 1924 the total was 17, and in 1923 the total was 33.

Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law—six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of those killed were burned to death, and two were put to death and their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings; eight of those were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of such cases, the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of those lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder attempted murder 2, statutory charge 5, improper conduct 1, charge not reported 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas 3, Kentucky 1, Louisiana 1, Mississippi 7, Missouri 1, Tennessee 2. Texas 1.

Chisholm. Minn.. Herald
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1927

SIXTEEN LYNCHINGS DURING YEAR 1927

Statistics concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the department of Records and Research, show there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were—murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri. 1: Tennessee. 2: Texas. 1.

Durham NC Herald
DEC 22 1927

LYNCHINGS SHOW DECLINE

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—(INS)—There were fewer lynchings in the south this year than last, R. R. Moton, president of Tuskegee Institute, told President Coolidge today.

This year's figure, however, was greater than three years ago, Moton said.

MATTOON ILL. GAZETTE
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31.

SIXTEEN LYNCHINGS DURING YEAR OF 1927

Special to The Journal-Gazette.

Tuskegee, Ala., Dec. 31.—Sixteen persons were lynched in 1927, according to records compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. This is fourteen less than the number thirty for 1926, one less than the number seventeen for 1925, the same number, sixteen, as for 1924, and seventeen less than the number thirty-three for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were forty-two instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and thirty-four in southern states. In twenty-four of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In eighteen other instances, armed force was used to repel the lynchers. Sixty-eight persons fifteen white and fifty-three negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All the persons lynched were negroes.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

Greenville NC Reflector
DEC 22 1927

Lynching on Decrease in South Today

Washington, Dec. 22.—(AP)—Lynching is on the decrease in the south, Robert R. Moton, principal of the Tuskegee Institute, told President Coolidge today during a call at the White House.

The negro educator said the President inquired specifically into the situation regarding lynching and mob violence and that he was able to report that on the basis of present indications, the number of lynchings for this year would be substantially below those for 1926.

Mr. Coolidge also received a report on the hospital located at the institute which sometime ago was placed entirely under the jurisdiction of a negro personnel. Moton declared that the hospital was showing fine progress.

ATLANTA, GA., Constitution
DEC 23 1927

MOTON REPORTS LYNCHING CASES FEWER IN SOUTH

Washington, December 22.—(AP)—Lynching is on the decrease in the south, Robert R. Moton, principal of the Tuskegee institute, told President Coolidge today during a call at the white house.

The negro educator said the president inquired specifically into the situation regarding lynching and mob violence and that he was able to report that on the basis of present indications the number of lynchings for this year would be substantially below those of 1926.

Mr. Coolidge also received a report on the hospital located at the institute which some time ago was placed entirely under the jurisdiction of a negro personnel. Moton declared that the hospital was showing fine progress.

Lynchings-1927
Reports on, Sent Press

Jan. -Dec.

2633

2633

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., NEWS
JANUARY 1, 1928

LYNCHING REPORT SHOWS 16 VICTIMS

Mississippi Leads With Seven Negroes Killed By Mobs During Past Year

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Dec. 31.—Sixteen negroes were lynched in seven states in 1927, 14 less than in 1926, one less than in 1925, the same number in 1924 and 17 less than in 1923, according to figures compiled by the department of records and research of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, Robert R. Moton, principal, made public Saturday.

Twelve of the negroes lynched were taken from officers, six from jails and six from officers outside of jails. Four of the victims were burned to death and two were put to death and then their bodies burned, the report stated.

The offenses charged against the negroes lynched were: Murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; attack, 2; attempted attack, 3; improper conduct, 1 and one charge was not reported.

Lynchings were prevented 42 times, the report further stated, eight times in Northern states and 34 times in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed, the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In other instances, armed force was employed to halt attempted lynching. The report further reveals that 15 white and 53 negroes were, as a result of precaution taken, saved from the hands of lynching mobs.

Lynchings occurred in the following states: Arkansas 3, Kentucky 1, Louisiana 1, Mississippi 7, Missouri 1, Tennessee 2, and Texas 1.

GALVESTON TEX. NEWS
JANUARY 1, 1928

LYNCHING TOTAL FOR PAST YEAR LESS THAN 1926

Tuskegee Institute, negro university, has compiled the following record of lynchings during the past year. R. R. Moton, principal, tells of the record in the following letter:

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research. I find there were sixteen persons lynched in 1927. This is fourteen less than the number of thirty for 1926, one less than the number of seventeen for 1925, the same number of sixteen as for 1924 and seventeen less than the number of thirty-three for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were forty-two instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern states and thirty-four in Southern states. In twenty-four of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In eighteen other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, fifteen white and fifty-three negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, seven; attempted murder, two; rape, two; attempted rape, three; improper conduct, one; charge not reported, one.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas three, Kentucky one, Louisiana one, Mississippi seven, Missouri one, Tennessee two, Texas one.

TEXTON MO STANDARD
JANUARY 3, 1928

WER LYNCHINGS IN 1927 THAN PREVIOUS YEAR

Robert R. Morton, principal of the Tuskegee Normal School of Tuskegee, Ala., sends us the following which speaks for itself:

"I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Record and Research. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

"There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

"All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; attempted rape, 3; rape, 2; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

"The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7 Missouri. 1: Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

GALVESTON TEX. NEWS
JANUARY 1, 1928

SIXTEEN NEGROES LYNCHED DURING THE YEAR 1927

By Associated Press.

Tuskegee, Ala., Dec. 31.—Sixteen persons, all negroes, were lynched during 1927, it was announced today by Tuskegee Institute on the basis of records compiled by its department of records and research. This compared with thirty in the previous year, seventeen in 1926, sixteen in 1924 and thirty-three in 1923.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number each were listed as follows:

Mississippi, 7; Arkansas, 3; Tennessee, 2; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1. Four of the victims were burned to death, the report said, and the bodies of two were burned after they had been put to death.

LITTLE ROCK ARK. DEMOCRAT
JANUARY 1, 1928

1926 Sets Low Record In Lynchings in U. S.

Tuskegee, Ala., Dec. 31.—The United States established a new low record for lynching in the year just closed.

A special report issued tonight by the Tuskegee Institute records 16 lynchings during the year—one less than the previous low record of 1925.

All the 1927 victims were negroes. Twelve were taken from the hands of the law by violence.

Lynchings in 1926 numbered 30.

Officers of the law prevented lynchings in 42 instances, the report added. Eight of these instances were in Northern states and 34 in the South.

The number of lynchings by states: Mississippi, 7; Arkansas, 3; Tennessee, 2; Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas, one each.

COALGATE OKLA. RECORD (wk.
DECEMBER 29, 1927

SIXTEEN LYNCHINGS IN 1927

The Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute has compiled the following statistics concerning lynchings during the year 1927:

There were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1. There were no lynchings in Oklahoma during the year 1927.

[illegible] HERALD
SUNDAY, JANUARY 1, 1928.

RECORDS SHOW BIG DECREASE IN LYNCHINGS

Only 16 Mob Victims In Last Year Against 30 in 1926

(Special to The Bulletin)

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Dec. 31.—There were 14 fewer persons lynched in 1927 than in 1926 according to figures compiled by the record and research department of Tuskegee Institute, the national training school for colored young men and women. The records show that in 1926, 30 persons were lynched while in 1927 only 16 met death in this manner. In 1923, 33 were lynched; in 1924 16 and in 1925, 17.

Of the 16 persons lynched in 1927 all of whom were Negroes, 12 were taken from officers of the law, six from jails and six from outside jails while in 42 instance—eight in northern states and 34 in southern states—lynchings were prevented by peace officers. In 18 instances armed force was used to repel attempts at lynching and 68 persons—15 white and 53 Negroes—thus saved from mob violence. Of the 16 lynched in 1927, four were burned to death and two killed and the bodies then burned while the others were hanged.

The offenses for which the 16 were lynched were: murder 7; attempted murder 7; rape 2; attempted rape 3; improper conduct 1 and lynching in which no charge was reported.

Mississippi, with seven lynchings in 1927, led the states in which lynchings occurred. Arkansas was second with three, Tennessee was third with two and Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas were charged with one each.

TUSCALOOSA, ALA., NEWS
JANUARY 1, 1928

TUSKEGEE GIVES LYNCHING TOLL

Lawless 1927 Deaths In United States Only Half Those In 1926

Sixteen persons were lynched during the year 1927, according to an announcement made today by the department of records and research of Tuskegee institute. That number was 14 less than the 30 persons lynched in 1926, and one less than the 17 persons lynched in 1925. The records show the same number of persons, 16, lynched in 1924, and 33 persons lynched in 1923.

Of the persons lynched in 1927, 12 weer taken out of the hands of the law; six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of the jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, and the bodies of two more were burned after they had been put to dath.

Halted Mobs

During the past year there were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. In eight instances this occurred in northern states, and in 34 instances in southern states. In twenty-four instances the prisoners were removed to points of safety or the guards were augmented or other precautions were taken. Armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers in 18 other instances. A total of 68 persons, 15 white persons and 53 negroes, weer saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1. The states in which the lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas 1.

HUNTSVILLE ALA. TIMES
JANUARY 1, 1928

TUSKEGEE, Dec. 31.— Sixteen persons, all negroes, were lynched during 1927, it was announced today by Tuskegee institute on the basis of records compiled by its department of records and research. This compared with 30 in the previous year, 17 in 1925, 16 in 1924 and 33 in 1923.

Helena, Mont., Independent
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1927

LYNCHING DECREASES, PRESIDENT IS TOLD

Washington, Dec. 28.—Lynchings in the south are on the decrease President Coolidge was informed by Dr. R. R. Moton, president of the Tuskegee Institute, at Tuskegee, Alabama.

Following an interview with Mr. Coolidge, Dr. Moton stated orally the president inquired of him particularly as to the situation regarding lynchings and mob violence in the southern states. He reported to the president, he said, that statistics would show fewer lynchings in the south this year than last, but an increase over the number three yeas ago.

Dr. Moton said also that he reported to the president on conditions at the government hospital for veterans at Tuskegee, which Mr. Coolidge dedicated. He said that the hospital is making satisfactory progress.

President Coolidge, in his recent annual message to congress, discussed the progress of the negro race, and recommended the enactment of legislation to put a stop to lynching.

RENO, NEV. GAZETTE
DECEMBER 22, 1927

Lynching Decreases

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22. — (AP) — Lynching is on the decrease in the South, Robert R. Moton, principal of the Tuskegee Institute, told President Coolidge today during a call at the White House.

OMAHA WEEKLY HERALD
DECEMBER 30, 1927

DR. MOTON TELLS PRESIDENT LYNCHINGS HAVE DECLINED

Washington, D. C., Dec. 30—In response to a direct inquiry from the president of the United States Dr. R. R. Moton says that lynching is on the decrease in the South. Dr. Moton called on President Coolidge last Tuesday.

Dr. Moton said that President Coolidge inquired specifically into the situation regarding lynching and mob violence and that he was able to report that on the basis of present indications the number of lynchings for this year would be substantially below those for 1926.

President Coolidge also received a report on the Veterans' hospital located at Tuskegee, which some time ago was placed entirely under the supervision of a Negro personnel. Dr. Moton reported that the hospital was showing excellent progress under the present management and assured the President that things were running smoothly.

CARBONDALE ILL. FREE PRESS
TUESDAY, JANUARY 3, 1928.

Facts On Lynching In U. S. In 1927

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala., Dec. 31—The following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, says 16 persons were lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken rfom the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death. Two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the wouldbe lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

INDIANA PA GAZETTE
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1927.

Lynching Record By Fourteen

As compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research it is found there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were: murder 7, attempted rape 2, rape 3, attempted murder 2; improper conduct 1, charge not reported 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas 3, Kentucky 1, Louisiana 1, Mississippi 7, Missouri 1, Tennessee 2, Texas 1.

New Low Record For Lynchings in U. S. Established

Tuskegee, Ala., Dec. 31 (INS).—The United States established a new low record for lynchings in the year just closed.

A special report issued tonight by the Tuskegee Institute records sixteen lynchings during the year, one less than the previous low record of 1925.

All the 1927 victims were negroes. Twelve were taken from the hands of the law by violence.

Lynchings in 1926 numbered thirty.

Officers of the law prevented lynchings in forty-two instances the report added. Eight of these instances were in Northern states and thirty-four in the Southern. The number of lynchings by states:

Mississippi, 7; Arkansas, 3; Tennessee, 2; Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas, 1 each.

BATON ROUGE LA. ADVOCATE
JANUARY 1, 1928

Sixteen Negroes Lynched in Year Reports Tuskegee

Tuskegee, Ala., Dec. 31.—Sixteen persons, all negroes, were lynched during 1927, it was announced by Tuskegee Institute on the basis of records compiled by its department of records and research. This compared with thirty in the previous year, 17 in 1925, 16 in 1924 and 33 in 1923.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each were listed as follows:

Mississippi 7, Arkansas 3, Tennessee 2, Kentucky 1, Louisiana 1, Missouri 1, Texas 1.

Four of the victims were burned to death, the report said and the bodies of two were burned after they had been put to death. Offenses with which they were charged included murder, assault, attempted assault and improper conduct.

The report said that of those lynched, six were taken from jails and six seized from officers of the law outside jails. It added that there were 42 instances in which officers prevented lynchings, 34 in southern states and 8 in northern states.

Lynchings-1927
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan.- Dec.

2634

NASHVILLE BANNER DECRIES LYNCHING

Nashville, Tenn., Jan. (By The Associated Negro Press) While finding some gratification in small number of lynchings during the past year, the NASHVILLE TENNESSEE BANNER in an editorial decried lynching and urged the citizens of the South to use their influence and the law its power to blot out this practice in the South.

Notwithstanding the fact that the number this year was small, the editor declared: "The people of this section must still hang their heads in shame when the matter comes up for discussions" and that "only through looking such situations fair in the face may the South hope to redeem itself once and for all from the worst disgrace that now attaches to it."

That lynchings can be prevented was pointed out in the case of North Carolina, where "it has become an exceedingly perilous business to join a mob" because the would-be lynchers "do so at their own great risk". It is the opinion of the editor that if the officers of the law perform their duty in protecting prisoners and that if the courts indict and punish lynchers as they should be, lynching will disappear in the South.

FORT ARTHUR, TEX., NEWS
DECEMBER 23, 1927

LYNCHING ON DECREASE

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23 (AP).—Lynching is on the decrease in the south, Robert R. Moton, principal of the Tuskegee institute, told President Coolidge today during a call at the white house.

Waycross Herald
DEC 22 1927

LYNCHING ON DECREASE

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22 (AP)—Lynching is on the decrease in the South, Robert R. Morton, principal of the Tuskegee Institute, told President Coolidge today during a call at the White House.

ADA OK. NEWS
DECEMBER 30, 1927

LYNCHING STATISTICS FOR PAST YEAR GIVEN

The Tuskogee Normal and Industrial Institute has compiled the following statistics concerning lynchings during the year 1927:

There were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926. one less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There was 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, seven; attempted murder, two; rape two; attempted rape, three; improper conduct, one; charge not reported, one.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, three; Kentucky, one; Louisiana, one; Mississippi, seven; Missouri, one; Tennessee, two; Texas, one. There were no lynchings in Oklahoma during the year 1927.

UTICA N Y PRESS
TUESDAY, JANUARY 3, 1928.

According to figures compiled by Tuskegee Institute, Alabama, 16 persons were lynched in 1927. This is [illegible] less than the number for 1926, one less than the number for 1925, the same number as for 1924, and 17 less than the number for 1923. Of the 16 lynched, 12 were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers and in that way 68 persons, 15 white and 53 colored, were saved from death at the hands of mobs. All of the 16 persons lynched were negroes. The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state, are: Arkansas, three; Kentucky, one; Louisiana, one; Mississippi, seven; Missouri, one; Tennessee, two; Texas, one.

SHEFFIELD, ALA., TRI-CITIES DAILY
DECEMBER 22, 1927

LYNCHING DECLINES

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—(AP)—Lynching is on the decrease in the South, Robert R. Moton, principal of the Tuskegee Institute, told President Coolidge today during a call at the White House.

DENISON (TEX.) HERALD
DECEMBER 23, 1927

DECREASE IN LYNCHING SHOWN IN SOUTHWEST

Washington, Dec. 22.— (AP) — Lynching has been on the decrease in the Southwest, Robert Motten, principal of the Tuskegee Institute, told President Coolidge today during a call at the White House.

KANSAS CITY
Corsicana Daylight
12-23-27

Lynchings on Decrease.

Washington, Dec. 22.—Lynching is on the decrease in the South, Robert R. Moton, principal of the Tuskegee Institute, told President Coolidge today during a call at the White House.

JOHNSON CITY, TENN., CHRONICLE
DECEMBER 23, 1927

WASHINGTON, Dec 22—(INS)—There were fewer lynchings in the South this year than last, Dr. R. R. Moton, President of Tuskegee Institute, told President Coolidge today.

This year's figure, however, was greater than three years ago, Moton said.

Union City, Tenn., Messenger
Friday, Jan. 6, 1928

LYNCHING IN THE SOUTH

According to records for 1927 there were thirteen lynchings and all of these were in the South. Tennessee had two for her share which gave this state a high proportion. Every time an incident of this kind happens great stock is taken of it in the North where, in some sections, the South is referred to as a benighted and uncivilized place. A record of thirteen lynchings is a blight on the fair name of the South and Tennessee's two place a stain on the name of the Volunteer state which it will require some time to remove. The best way to remove this stain is for the citizens of this state to see that the year 1928 passes without a single crime of this kind being recorded. It is in the power of law abiding citizens to prevent such and the most humble citizen has his part in preventing lynchings.

VINITA, OKLA., JOURNAL
DECEMBER 23, 1927

Lynching is on the decrease in the south, Robert R. Moton, principal of the Tuskegee institute, told President Coolidge, Thursday during a call at the White house.

Lenoir City, Tenn., Progress
Wednesday, Jan. 4, 1928

1927 LYNCHINGS

The following is sent out from the Tuskegee Negro Normal and institute college Tuskegee Ala.:

There were in the United States 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is fourteen less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four were burned to death, 2 were put to death and

Press
Sheboygan
Wis. 12-31-27

Conditions Improve

Fourteen less Negroes were lynched in the South during the past year than in 1926, according to figures compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. Forty-two lynchings were prevented by officers of the law. Of this number, in 18 instances armed force was used to repel the excited mobs, it is stated in the report just released by Robert R. Moton, principal of the institution.

There were 16 persons lynched in 1927. The victims were all Negroes, and the offenses charged against them were seven murders; two attempted murders; two rape; three attempted rape; one improper conduct, and one charge not reported.

The states in which the lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2 ,and Texas, 1.

A comparative table of lynchings shows there were 30 in 1926; 17 in 1925; 16 in 1924, and 33 in 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched during the past year were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the Negroes were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

Of the 42 instances in which lynchings were prevented by officers, eight of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. Thus, with 18 other lynchings prevented by armed force, 68 persons—15 white and 53 colored—were saved from death at the hands of emotional mobs .

The Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, founded by Booker T. Washington for the training of colored young men and women, makes no comment upon the lynchings

removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 negroes, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offences charged were murder, 7; attempted murder, 2, rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

Two things in the report are very gratifying. One is that the number of lynchings continues to keep away below what it was immediately after the World War and the other that there is a marked decrease of lynchings for the crime against women which held so large a place years ago. Perhaps, also, we should rejoice at the evidence given that officers prevented lynchings. In that however, several things are to be considered. If the officers actually prevented so large a number of lynchings it would indicate that the disposition of the people to take the law into their own hands had not changed very greatly. But we are inclined to suspect that in many of the cases there was no real disposition to lynch and in other cases, perhaps, the officers sought credit where none was due.

Rght at this Christmas season we prefer to believe that there is an increasing disposition among the people to rely upon the law, and we are willing to believe that the officers of the law are becoming more determined that the law shall take its course.

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then their bodies burned.

There were 14 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern states and 34 were in Southern states. In 24 of these cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were—murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occured and the numbers in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas. 1.

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All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texis

GALVESTON TEX. TRIBUNE
DECEMBER 22, 1927

LYNCHING ON DECLINES.

Washington, Dec. 22.—(AP)—Lynching is on the decrease in the south, Robert R. Moton, principal of the Tuskegee Institute, told President Coolidge today during a call at the White House.

CARTHAGE MO. DEMOCRAT
JANUARY 4. 1928

STATISTICAL REPORT OF 1927 LYNCHINGS

The following report is made concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research:

There were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924, and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

GALVESTON TEX. TRIBUNE
DECEMBER 22, 1927

LYNCHING ON DECLINES.

Washington, Dec. 23.—(AP)—Lynching is on the decrease in the south, Robert R. Moton, principal of the Tuskegee Institute, told President Coolidge today during a call at the White House.

FT. WORTH TEX. STAR-TELEGRAM
DECEMBER 22, 1927

Less Lynching in South.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—Lynching is on the decrease in the South Robert R. Moton, principal of the Tuskegee Institute, told President Coolidge today during a call at the White House.

COLUMBUS, MISS., DISPATCH
DECEMBER 22, 1927

LAST MINUTE FLASHES

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—(AP)—Lynching is on a decrease in the South, Robert Moton, principal of Tuskegee Institute, told President Coolidge today during a call at the White House.

Thos Ko Elliott
12-29-27

Becoming More Civilized.

For years the Tuskegee (Ala.) Department of Research has kept a record of the number of lynchings in this country. Following is the report for the year just closing.

There were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were

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ST. LOUIS MO POST DISPATCH
DECEMBER 22, 1927

Reports Decrease of Lynching.

By the Associated Press

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—Lynching is on the decrease in the South, Robert R. Moton, principal of the Tuskegee Institute, told President Coolidge today during a call at the White House.

NORFOLK NEB NEWS
DECEMBER 22, 1927

Washington, Dec. 22—(AP)—Lynching is on the decrease in the South, Robert R. Moulton, principal of the Tuskegee Institute, told President Coolidge today during a call at the White House.

Lynchings-1927
Reports on Sent Press.

Jan. — Dec.

2635

KANSAS CITY

DALLAS TEX. NEWS
JANUARY 1, 1928

Mississippi Leads in Lynchings for 1927

Special to The News.

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala., Dec. 31.—There were sixteen lynchings in the United States for the year 1927, according to figures compiled by the Tuskegee Institute. Almost half of these were in Mississippi, where the total was seven. Arkansas had three lynchings, Tennessee two and Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas each one, according to the report. All of the persons lynched were negroes.

The total for the year was the smallest of any time in the last five years, except for 1924, which also had sixteen. The 1926 total was thirty, 1925 seventeen and 1923 thirty-three. Offenses charged for 1927 were murder 7, attempted murder 2, criminal assault 2, attempted criminal assault 3, improper conduct 1 and one charge was not reported.

The report also states that forty-two attempted lynchings were prevented, eight in Northern States and thirty-four in Southern States. Sixty-eight persons were thus saved from mobs, of whom fifteen were white and fifty-three negroes.

Four of the victims were burned to death and bodies or two others were burned after they had been put to death.

KANSAS CITY

BILOXI, MISS., HERALD
DECEMBER 28, 1927

SAYS LYNCHING DECREASES

Washington, Dec. 22.—(AP)—Lynching is on the decrease in the South Robert H. Moton, principal of the Tuskegee Institute, told President Coolidge today during a call at the White House.

DALHART, TEX., TEXAN
DECEMBER 30, 1927

TUSKEGEE INSTI. REPORTS SIXTEEN LYNCHINGS IN 1927

The department of records and research of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute for Negroes reports that there were 16 lynchings in the United States in 1927.

This is 14 less than the number for 1926, one less than the number for 1925, the same number as for 1924 and 17 less than the number for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

Hartford Ct. Courant

JAN 1 1928

THE YEAR'S LYNCHINGS.

Total of Sixteen Much Less than for 1926, Principal Moton Finds.

To the Editor of The Courant:—

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923.

Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails.

Four of the persons were burned to death,

Two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings.

Eight of these were in Northern States and 34 in Southern States. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augumented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers.

Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

R. R. MOTON.
Principal.

Tuskegee Institute, Ala., Dec. 31, 1927.

WAUKEGAN, ILL. SUN
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31.

LYNCHINGS IN U. S. LESS IN '27 THAN YEAR BEFORE

Robert R. Morton, principal of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute at Tuskegee, Ala., sends out the following concerning lynchings for the last year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: murder 7, attempted murder 2, rape 2, attempted rape 3, improper conduct 1, charge not reported 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas 3, Kentucky 1, Louisiana 1, Mississippi 7, Missouri 1, Tennessee 2, Texas 1.

N. Y. City Herald Tribune

JAN 1 1928

16 Negroes Lynch Victims, Decrease of 14 in Year

Tuskegee Institute Reports 68 Other Persons, 15 White, Saved From Death by Mobs

Special to the Herald Tribune

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Dec. 31.—Sixteen persons were lynched in 1927, according to information compiled by Tuskegee Institute. This is fourteen less than the number 30 for 1926, one less than the number seventeen for 1925, the same number sixteen as for 1924 and seventeen less than the number thirty-three for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law ouside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were forty-two instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, eight of these were in Northern states and thirty-four in Southern states. In twenty-four of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In eighteen other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, fifteen white and fifty-three Negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs. All the persons lynched were Negroes.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, three; Kentucky, one; Louisiana, one; Mississippi, seven; Missouri, one; Tennessee, two; Texas, one.

Democrat
Tallahassee Fla
DEC 22 1927

FEWER ROPE PARTIES

Washington, Dec. 22.—(INS)—There were fewer lynchings in the south this year than last, R. R. Moton, president of Tuskegee institute, told President Coolidge today. This year's figures are greater than three years ago, however, Moton said.

Yankton, S. D., Press & Dakotan
WEDNESDAY, DEC. 28, 1927

The year 1927 brought only 16 lynchings, compared with 30 for 1926, according to the Tuskegee Institute in Alabama, which is a good showing, but no definite trend is noted if one goes farther back. The total for 1925 was 17, for 1924 it was 16, although 1923 was a bad year with 33. It is encouraging, however, that the average is being kept down.

VERNON, TEX., RECORD
DECEMBER 22, 1927

Lynching Decreases

Washington, Dec. 22—(AP)—Lynching is on the decrease in the South, Robert R. Moton, principal of the Tuskegee Institute, told President Coolidge today during a call at the White House.

CENTERVILLE, IA., IOWEGIAN
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1927.

LYNCHINGS IN 1927

Some improvement was noted in 1927 in a decrease in lynchings. The Tuskegee Institute keeps a record and announces that there were sixteen persons lynched, which is 14 less than 1926, one less than 1925, the same number as 1924 and seventeen less than 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails, six from officers outside of jails. Four were burned to death, two burned after they had been put to death.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In twenty-four of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augumented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were—murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state, are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

MASON CITY IA GLO GAZ TMS
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1927.

LYNCHINGS IN 1927

Lynching in this country has more or less gone out of style, it would appear from the report made by Robert R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute in Alabama. His survey shows that only 16 persons were lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number in 1926, 1 less than the number in 1925, the same number as for 1924 and 17 less than the number for 1923.

Twelve of the persons lynched, according to the Moton report, were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers outside of jails. Four persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death in other ways and then their bodies burned.

"There were 42 instances," says Mr. Moton, "in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, 8 in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 colored, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs."

All of the persons lynched this past year have been negroes, according to the colored educator. The offenses charged were: Murder 7; attempted murder 2; offenses against women or attempts 5; improper conduct 1; charge not reported 1. The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas 3; Kentucky 1; Louisiana 1; Mississippi 7; Missouri 1; Tennessee 2; Texas 1.

May Iowa remain off this list permanently!

Livingston, Mont., Enterprise
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1927

LYNCHINGS OVER PAST YEAR SHOW GREAT DECREASE

R. R. Morton, principal of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, founded for negroes by Booker T. Washington, at Tuskegee, Alabama, writing on the record of lynchings for 1927, declares there were sixteen persons lynched during the past year. This, he says, is 14 less than the number, 30, for 1926, and one less than the number, 17, for 1925, the same number, 16, as for 1924, and 17 less than the number, 33, for 1923.

The balance of Mr. Morton's report follows:

"Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death and two were put to death and then their bodies were burned.

"There were forty-two instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in the northern states and thirty-four in the southern states. In twenty-four of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented, or other precautions taken. In eighteen other instances, armed forces were used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, fifteen white and fifty-three negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of a mob.

"All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct 1; charge not reported, 1.

"The states in which the lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1."

RIDGWAY PA RECORD
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31,

Lynching Record In U. S. For Past Year Falls Off

The following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, show 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, one less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four o the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 1924 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were —murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows; Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

Camden N. J. Post
DEC 2 3 1927

LYNCHING WANES IN SOUTH

Washington, Dec. 22.—There were fewer lynchings in the South this year than last, Dr. R. R. Moton, president of Tuskegee Institute, told President Coolidge today.

This year's figure, however, was greater than that of three years ago, Moton said.

ROCKFORD, ILL., GAZETTE
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31,

THE BLOT ON THE NATION.

Figures made public by Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute show there were 14 fewer lynchings in 1927 than in 1926. The number this year was 16, one less than in 1926, the same number as in 1924 and 17 less than in 1923.

Twelve of the persons lynched this year were taken from law officers, six from jails and six from outside of jails. Four of the twelve were burned to death.

There were 42 instances, according to the Institute's figures, in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers; 68 persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were—murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Mississippi, 7; Arkansas, 3; Tennessee, 2; Missouri, Texas, Kentucky and Louisiana, 1 each.

Lynching is a terrible blot on the nation. The figures reveal a large reduction in this crime from the preceding year, but they show, too, that it was prevented in 42 instances only by the vigilance of the authorities. Mississippi, especially, is shown in the light of making an outlaw of itself. It is a sorry position Mississippi occupies in the family of states. May the new year bring a larger respect for law everywhere in the union.

WACO TEX. TIMES HERALD
DECEMBER 22, 1927

LYNCHING DECREASES

Principal of Tuskegee Institute in Alabama Calls on President and Tells Him About It

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—(AP)—Lynching is on the decrease in the south, Robert R. Moton, principal of the Tuskegee institution, told President Coolidge today during a call at the White House.

WAGONER, OKLA., RECORD-DEM.
DECEMBER 29, 1927

LYNCHINGS IN 1927

As compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research there was found 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926; one less than the number 17 for 1925; the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 whites and 53 Negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

Lynchings-1927
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan. -Dec.

2636

SPRINGFIELD, MO. LEADER
JANUARY 1, 1928

LOW MARK FOR LYNCHING SET

Sixteen Persons, All Negroes, Slain by Mobs in South in 1927.

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Dec. 31.—(I. N. S.)—The United States established a new low record for lynchings in the year just closed.

A special report issued tonight by the Tuskegee Institute records 16 lynchings during the year, one less than the previous low record of 1925.

All the 1927 victims were Negroes. Twelve were taken from the hands of the law by violence.

Lynchings in 1926 numbered 30.

Officers of the law prevented lynchings in 42 instances, the report added. Eight of these instances were in northern states and 34 in the southern. The number of lynchings by states:

Mississippi, 7; Arkansas, 3; Tennessee, 2; Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri, and Texas, 1 each.

Jackson, Ga., Progress-Argus

JAN 6 1928

GEORGIA'S GOOD RECORD

Georgia went through the year 1927 without a single lynching, according to statistics compiled by the Tuskegee Institute. The country as a whole had sixteen lynchings last year, a decrease of fourteen from the previous year.

This is a good showing for Georgia and for the country.

There is no excuse for lynch law. The courts should mete out justice under any and all conditions. It also goes without saying that the cause of lynchings should be removed. Technicalities and the law's delay do as much as anything else to bring about mob violence. When the country is assured beyond question that swift and speedy justice will be executed, there will be a still greater decrease in the number of lynchings.

In its stand for orderly justice last year Georgia has much for which to be proud. Let us hope that the same good record will be kept up this year and throughout all the years to come.

ATLANTA, GA. Constitution

DEC 31 1927

NO LYNCHINGS IN GEORGIA THIS YEAR

Sixteen Lynchings Occurred in the South in 1927, But None in Georgia.

Georgia has passed through a 12-month period with no lynchings, according to statistics given out by Tuskegee Industrial Institute, which for years has kept an accurate record of lynchings in the United States.

There were 16 persons lynched the past year, all in Southern states, as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas, one each; seven in Mississippi and two in Tennessee.

Other interesting facts given in the report are these:

There were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-Eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3 improper conduct, 1; charge not reported.1.

Jackson, Ga., Progress-Argus

JAN 6 1928

COUNTRY HAD FEWER LYNCHINGS IN 1927

TOTAL OF 16 PERSONS PUT TO DEATH IN 1927 COMPARED WITH 30 PREVIOUS YEAR, IS REPORT

According to figures complied by the department of records and research of Tuskegee Instatute, Tuskegee, Ala., there were 16 persons lynched in the United States in 1927. This compars with 30 in 1926, showing a decrease of 14 in 1925 17 persons lynched, 16 in 1924, 33 in 1923. Of the 16 persons lynched, 12 were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of the jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances of officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of the persons lynched were Murder, 7; attemped murder, 2; rape, 2; attemped rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported,1;

The states in which lynching occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee,2 Texas.1.

Greenville, S. C., News

JAN 2 1928

16 Negroes Lynched During Past Annum

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 1.—(AP)—Sixteen persons, all negroes, were lynched during 1927, it was announced today by Tuskegee institute, on the basis of record compiled by its department of research and records. This compared with 30 in the previous year, 17 in 1925, 16 in 1924 and 33 in 1923.

Four of the victims were burned to death, the report said, and the bodies of two were burned after they had been put to death. Offenses with which they were charged included murder, assault, attempt assault and improper conduct.

The report said that of those lynched, six were taken from jails and six seized from officers of the law outside jails. It added that there were 42 instances in which officers prevented lynchings, 34 in southern states and eight in northern states.

IRVINE, KY., TRIBUNE
Friday, Jan. 6, 1928

In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were saved death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were-murder, 7; attempted murder, 7; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occured and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

Yours very truly,
R. R. Moton, Prin.

TUSKEGGEE NORMAL AND INDUSTRIAL INSTITUTE.
Tuskeggee Institute, Ala.
December 31, 1927

Dear Sir:

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as complied by the Tuskegee Institue in the Department of Records and Research. I find that there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926. 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law. 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of joils. 4 of the persons were burned to death,, 2 put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern States. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augemented or other precautions taken.

ROCKWOOD, TEN. TIMES
Thursday, Jan. 5, 1928

Georgia, where the lynching of negroes used to be regarded as a sort of legitimate outdoor sport a few years ago did not have a lynching last year, but Tennessee comes forward with two mob murders in 1927. And in neither case was anybody punished or any real effort made to punish anybody.

WABASH, IND. CITIZEN
Sunday, Jan. 8, 1928

There were only sixteen lynchings in the United States in 1927, fourteen less than for 1926.

RICHMOND (VA) NEWS LEADER
December 22, 1927

REPORTS LYNCHINGS IN SOUTH DECREASE

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—(AP)—Lynching is on the decrease in the South, Robert R. Moton, principal of the Tuskegee Institute, told President Coolidge today during a call at the White House.

The Negro educator said he inquired specifically into the situation regarding lynching and mob violence and that he was able to report that on the basis of present indications, the number of lynchings for this year would be substantially below those for 1926.

Mr. Coolidge also received a report on the hospital located at the institute which some time ago was placed entirely under the jurisdiction of a Negro personnel. Moton declared that the hospital was showing fine progress.

Mobile, Ala., Register
DEC 30 1927

LYNCHINGS DECREASE

Negro Association's Survey Shows 21 Cases in 1927, Compared to 34 in 1926.

NEW YORK, Dec. 29.—(AP)—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People today made public a survey showing a decrease in the number of lynchings from 34 in 1926 to 21 in 1927. Seven men were lynched in Mississippi this year, the report showed, three in Tennessee and Arkansas, two in Florida and one each in Louisiana, Missouri, North Carolina, Texas and California, and on the Kentucky-Virginia border. All but two of the victims were negroes.

Ocilla, Ga. Star
DEC 29 1927

Lynching Decreased Half This Year

Only 16 Persons Meet Death At Hands of Mob in 1927.

The following report has been received by this paper from R. R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Institute, which has for a number of years compiled reports on lynchings in the United States.

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Reserch. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were—murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states n which lynchings occured and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

Eagle
Brooklyn, N. Y.
JAN 1 1928

LYNCHING TOLL 16 IN 1927, NEGRO SAYS

Figures Show Drop of 14 Over 1926—Mississippi Has Seven.

There were 14 less lynchings in 1927 than in 1926, according to figures compiled by Robert R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute for the training of colored young men and women.

In 1926 lynchings numbered 30. During the year just concluded they numbered 16, or one less than in 1925, the same as in 1924 and 17 less than in 1923, according to Principal Moton.

Of the total in 1927, 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned, Mr. Moton explains.

"There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern States and 34 in Southern States. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

"All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, seven; rape, two; attempted rape, three; improper conduct, one, and charge not reported, one.

"The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas, three; Kentucky, one; Louisiana, one; Mississippi, seven; Missouri, one; Tennessee, two, and Texas, one.

GALVESTON TEX NEWS
JANUARY 1, 1928

LYNCHING TOTAL FOR PAST YEAR LESS THAN 1926

Tuskegee Institute, negro university, has compiled the following record of lynchings during the past year. R. R. Moton, principal, tells of the record in the following letter:

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research. I find there were sixteen persons lynched in 1927. This is fourteen less than the number of thirty for 1926, one less than the number of seventeen for 1925, the same number of sixteen as for 1924 and seventeen less than the number of thirty-three for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were forty-two instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern states and thirty-four in Southern states. In twenty-four of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In eighteen other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, fifteen white and fifty-three negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, seven; attempted murder, two; rape, two; attempted rape, three; improper conduct, one; charge not reported, one.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas three, Kentucky one, Louisiana one, Mississippi seven, Missouri one, Tennessee two, Texas one.

DUQUOIN, ILL. CALL
Tuesday, Jan. 10, 1928

FEWER LYNCHINGS IN AMERICA LAST YEAR

Principal Robert M. Moton of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute in Alabama supplies the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research. He finds there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926. 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances ,armed forces was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offences charged were—murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3 improper conduct, 1; charge not reported 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee 2; Texas 1.

BELLEVILLE ILLINOIS ADVOCATE
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31,

THERE WERE SIXTEEN LYNCHINGS IN U. S. A. DURING PAST YEAR

TUSKEGEE, ALA., Dec. 31—(Special)—The number of lynchings during the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, was sixteen. This is 14 less than the nmber 30 for 1926; one less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924, and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

Lynchings-1927

Reports on, sent Press.

Jan. - Dec.

2637

CHATTANOOGA TIMES
Tuesday, Jan. 3, 1928

OUR LYNCHING RECORD.

Sixteen persons, all negroes, were lynched in this country last year, according to statistics compiled by the department of records and research, of Tuskegee institute. The states in which the crimes were committed and the number listed in each were as follows: Mississippi, 7; Arkansas, 3; Tennessee, 2; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1. The offenses with which the victims were charged included murder, assault, attempted assault and improper conduct. Death was inflicted on some by shooting, and on others by hanging, while four were burned alive.

This record, which is a national disgrace and an international scandal, shows that, for all our vaunted superiority in the matter of self-government, there are in the United States a considerable number of men who are far from being qualified for the responsibilities of self-government—men who, under the provocation of crime aggravated by race prejudice, succumb to the spirit of the mob and proceed to override the authority of the state and deprive fellow-beings of their lives, sometimes in the most barbarous manner.

There is, however, reason to believe that the number of such individuals is steadily growing smaller. The sixteen lynchings in 1927 represented considerable improvement over 1926, when there were 30. The record was lower than that of 1925, with 17 deaths at the hands of mobs, and equaled that of 1924, the previous low year. It was a tremendous improvement over 1917, with its 38 lynchings; a still greater one over 1908, with its 100 victims of mob violence. Going back still further, it is seen that the country has indeed traveled a long way on the road to a lynchless era, for in 1901 there were 135 lynchings, in 1893, 200, and in 1892, 255.

This improvement has come about through the growth of public sentiment against mob violence and through greater effort on the part of some officers of the law to keep prisoners from falling into the hands of mobs. Last year, for instance, forty-two lynchings were prevented by officers who had the intelligence to outwit lawless gangs or the courage to withstand them. Nevertheless, six of the sixteen individuals lynched last year were taken from jails and six others from officers outside jails, and responsibility for the lynching of these twelve persons undoubtedly rests in some measure, if not wholly in some instances, upon the officers who quailed, forgot their sworn duty, and gave way in the presence of the mobs demanding their charges.

In its efforts to stamp out mob executions, the country has need of more sheriffs, deputies and jailers, who have the courage and the ability to remain in control of the situation when the mob spirit is running riot. It also has need of some serious effort on the part of law-enforcement authorities to bring lynchers into court and punish them for their crimes against their victims and their states. And few states have greater need for these things than Tennessee, for it was disgraced by two mob executions in 1927, and not a single lyncher was so much as indicted.

BIRMINGHAM (ALA) POST
January 2, 1928

[illegible] Mobs In 1[illegible]

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 2. Records compiled in the department of research at Tuskegee Institute revealed today that 16 negroes were lynched in 192[illegible] compared with 30 in 1926, 17 in 1924 and 33 in 1923.

Mississippi heads the list of states in which lynchings occurred, with seven; Arkansas had 3; Tennessee, 2; Kentucky 1; Louisiana 1; Missouri, 1; Texas 1.

Offenses with which they were charged included, murder, assault, attempted assault and improper conduct. The report said that of those lynched six were taken from jails and six seized from officers outside jails. It added that there were 42 instances in which officers prevented lynchings, 34 in southern states and eight in northern states.

CHICAGO HEIGHTS [illegible]. STAR
Tuesday, Jan. 3, 1928

Lynchings Show Sharp Decline During Closing Year, Report Indicates

The number of lynchings in the country during the past year showed a decided decrease, there being only 16 violations as compared with 30 in 1926, according to Robert R. Moton, principal of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute.

The report was compiled in the Department of Records and Research of the institute, and says:

Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, seven; attempted murder, two; rape, two; attempted rape, three; improper conduct one; charge not reported, one.

GEORGIA OFF THE "BLACK LIST"

The department of records and research of Tuskegee institute has completed its annual survey as to lynchings in the United States during 1927. The record is most commendable in showing a steady decrease, and is illustrating the vigilance of officers in preventing mob violence. It is particularly gratifying to Georgia, for not one lynching occurred in this state from January 1, 1927, to this new year day—a record that it was hoped would be reached in 1926, but which was not made due to a lynching in the last half of the year.

At any rate while several of the other southern states have made unenviable records, especially Mississippi, whose lead in 1927 is most deplorable and regrettable, Georgia has at last been eliminated from the "black list" and it is hoped it has attained a position in this matter which it will always maintain.

In the entire country there were only 16 lynchings in 1927, which is 14 less than the number for 1926. Twelve of the victims were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of the jails.

The survey shows that there were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynching. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed, or the guards augmented, or other precautions taken. In 18 other cases armed forces were used to repel the mobs.

The states in which lynchings occurred, and the number in each state, are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

It is noticeable that, along with Georgia, there were no 1927 lynchings in either of the Carolinas or in Florida, or Alabama. That is, the south Atlantic seaboard states, or the southeast proper, made a record in 1927 so commendable in this respect that it is deserving of comment and general national knowledge. It illustrates that in this great section of the country there is developing a stronger feeling for the supremacy of law and order, and for the integrity of constituted authority. The press crusades against floggings, and other evidences of mob violence, and the courage of enforcement and court officials, along with a stronger public sentiment against mob violence, have been contributing factors toward this improved situation.

At this time leaders of public affairs in Mississippi are endeavoring to remedy the disgraceful mob-violence situation in that state, and it is hoped with success ahead of them.

There is no place for the mob any more than for the anarchist or the communist who conspires to tear down organized and legalized government. It is a hopeful sign that the lynching situation in the southeast was greatly improved in the year that has just closed.

SIXTEEN LYNCHED DURING PAST YEAR

Tuskegee Figures Show Fourteen Decrease. Forty-Two Prevented By Officers of Law, 34 In South.

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Dec. 31.—Sixteen persons were lynched in 1927, as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, one less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924, and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were— murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1 charge not reported 1

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas 1.

Louisville, Ky.
JAN 5 1928

GEORGIA'S GOOD RECORD

The people of Georgia are to be congratulated that not one of the sixteen lynchings taking place in the year 1927, were perpetrated in this state. This fact truly represents a forward step in progress and intelligence, and self control. It is an indisputable fact that the Southern people have had a terrible ordeal and responsibility since the 60's. Just sixty-three years ago the civilization and culture of the South received a great backset by the sudden elevation to citizenship of an entire race of people who knew no law and cared not for order. Such strenuous times called for quick and sure punishment, and our Southern people resorted to lynch law. Long since the need for this fearful alternative has vanished, and resorting to such a measure now is a slap at civilization. Times change and we should change with them.

Mob violence, we trust, is a thing of the past in the Empire State of the South. Every citizen should uphold the law, and let the law, not brutal blood lust, take its course.

THE WAY TO REDUCE LYNCHINGS

(St. Louis Post-Dispatch)

There is a gratifying note in the record of lynchings for the past year, compiled by the Department of Records and Research of the Tuskegee Institute. There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, 34 of them in southern states. In 24 of these cases effective precautions were taken, through the removal of prisoners or placing of guards. In 18, armed forces were used to repel lynchers.

Mississippi leads the list with seven lynchings, Arkansas follows with three, Tennessee with two, and there were one each in Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas. The lynchings were less by 14 this year than in 1926. Four Negroes were burned. The bodies of two were burned after they were killed.

The encouraging sign is the action of officers of the law to protect prisoners from mob violence. When law officers do their full duty in protecting prisoners, lynchings will be reduced to a minimum. It is the most effective preventive.

SPRINGFIELD, MASS.
Republican
JAN 4 1928

Lynchings Fewer in 1927.

To the Editor of The Post-Standard:

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year, as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research.

I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number, 30, for 1926, 1 less than the number, 17, for 1925, the same number, 16, as for 1924, and 17 less than the number, 33, for 1923.

Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death; two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases, the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other

POST-STANDARD
SYRACUSE, N. Y.
JAN 3 1928

repel the would be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were—murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennesse, 2; Texas, 1.

ROBERT R. MOTON.

Tuskegee, Ala.

PLATTSBURG (NY) REPUBLICAN
January 4, 1928

16 PERSONS LYNCHED IN 1927, TUSKEGEE'S COMPILIATION SHOWS

The following concerning lynchings for the past year has been compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 yess than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

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FORREST CITY ARK HERALD
JANUARY 19, 1928

FEWER LYNCHINGS

According to the annual report of the Tuskegee Institute, there were only 16 persons lynched in the United States during 1927. While this is the lowest number recorded in any year since records have been kept, except 1924 which showed the same number, it is 16 too many.

Still, when compared with the terrible record of 35 years ago, this report should give encouragement to all who are striving to remove the blot of lynch law from American civilization. To show briefly how lynching has decreased, a few figures will be of interest.

Lynching reached its most frightful height in 1892, when 255 persons were murdered by mobs. Of this number 100 were white and 155 colored. There were 115 lynched in 1900, 74 in 1910, 61 in 1920, 64 in 1921, 57 in 1922, 33 in 1923, 16 in 1924, 17 in 1925, 30 in 1926 and 16 in 1927.

During 1927 officers of the law protected 42 persons from mobs and in numerous other cases prisoners were removed to other jails as a precautionary measure. The record of law officers in this has shown much improvement in recent years. It is chiefly to the age and determination of and other officers that the ing of the lynching evil is

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All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were—murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

Yours very truly,

R. R. MOTON

Principal.

HOUSTON, TEX. PRESS
JANUARY 14, 1928

Tuskegee's Report Lists 16 Lynchings During Last Year

Tuskegee, Ala., Dec. 31, 1927.

Editor Houston Informer:

I send you the following ing lynchings for the past

Lynchings-1927
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan. - Dec.

2638

CANANDAIGUA N Y MESSENGER
SATURDAY, JANUARY 14, 1928

FEWER LYNCHINGS

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All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texis 1.

CARTHAGE, MO., DEMOCRAT
JANUARY 6, 1928

STATISTICAL REPORT OF 1927 LYNCHINGS

The following report is made concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research:

There were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924, and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of

Evening Globe
BOSTON, MASS.
1/3/28

HOW IT STANDS?

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, which is working constructively in the betterment of conditions with which the negro race is surrounded, annually performs a great service by telling the American people about one of their national sins. It gives out statistics showing the number of lynchings that take place each year.

During 1927 there were 16 of these exhibitions of organized lawlessness. This was decidedly better than in 1926, when there were 30, and also better than in 1923, when there were 33. It was, however, exactly the same as in 1924, and one less than in 1925.

But there might have been more. There seems to be a growing disposition on the part of the authorities to insist that mobs do not indulge themselves in vengence. In 42 cases lynchings were prevented by officers of the law. Eight of these were in Northern States and 34 in the South. Many times mobs discovered that they were opposed by armed forces. In other cases prisoners sought by the mobs were removed to places of greater safety.

Here is evidence of a growing sense of decency. It cannot grow too fast. If ever there should come an era of class hostility in the South in which whites oppose whites, the habit of lynching is likely to bring such violence as America has never known.

RAINIER, ORE., REVIEW
JANUARY 20, 1928

FEWER LYNCHINGS

According to the annual report of the Tuskegee Institute, there were only 16 persons lynched in the United States during 1927. While this is the lowest number recorded in any yeas since records have been kept, except 1924, which showed the same number, it is 16 too many.

Still, when compared with the terrible record of 35 years ago, this report should give encouragement to all who are striving to remove the blot of lynch law from American civilization. To show briefly how lynch law has decreased, a few figures will be of interest.

Lynching reached its most frightful height in 1892, when 255 persons were murdered by mobs. Of this numebr 100 were white and 155 colored. There were 115 lynched in 1900, 74 in 1910, 61 in 1920, 64 in 1921, 57 in 1922, 33 in 1923, 16 in 1924, 17 in 1925, 30 in 1926 and 16 in 1927.

During 1927 officers of the law protected 42 persons from mobs and in numerous other cases prisoners were removed to

other jails as a precautionary measure. The record of law officers in this respect has shown much improvement in recent years. It is chiefly to the courage and determination of sheriffs and other officers that the lessening of the lynching evil is due.

SYLACAUGA, ALA., ADVANCE
JANUARY 11, 1928

NO LYNCHINGS IN THIS STATE PAST YEAR

Only 16 Instances Of Mob Killing Recorded In United States

Tuskegee, Ala., Jan. 5.—Sixteen persons, all negroes, were lynched during 1927, according to the annual lynching report made by Tuskegee Institute, here tonight. There were no lynchings in Alabama.

This compares with 30 in the year previous, 17 in 1925, 16 in 1924 and 33 in 1923.

The states in which lynchings occurred in 1927 were Mississippi, 7; Arkansas, 3; Tennessee, 2; Kentucky, 1; Lousiana, 1. Missouri, 1, and Texas one.

Four of the victims were burned to death, the report said, and the bodies of two were burned after they were put to death.

Offenses with which they were charged included murder, assault, attempted assault and improper conduct.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs, the report says.

DURANT, OKLA., NEWS
JANUARY 20, 1928

Fewer Lynchings

According to the annual report of the Tuskegee Institute, there were only 16 persons lynched in the United States during 1927. While this is the lowest number recorded in any year since records have been kept, except 1924 which showed the same number, it is 16 too many.

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MONONGAHELA PA REPUBN
FRIDAY, JANUARY 13, 1928.

927

FEWER LYNCHINGS

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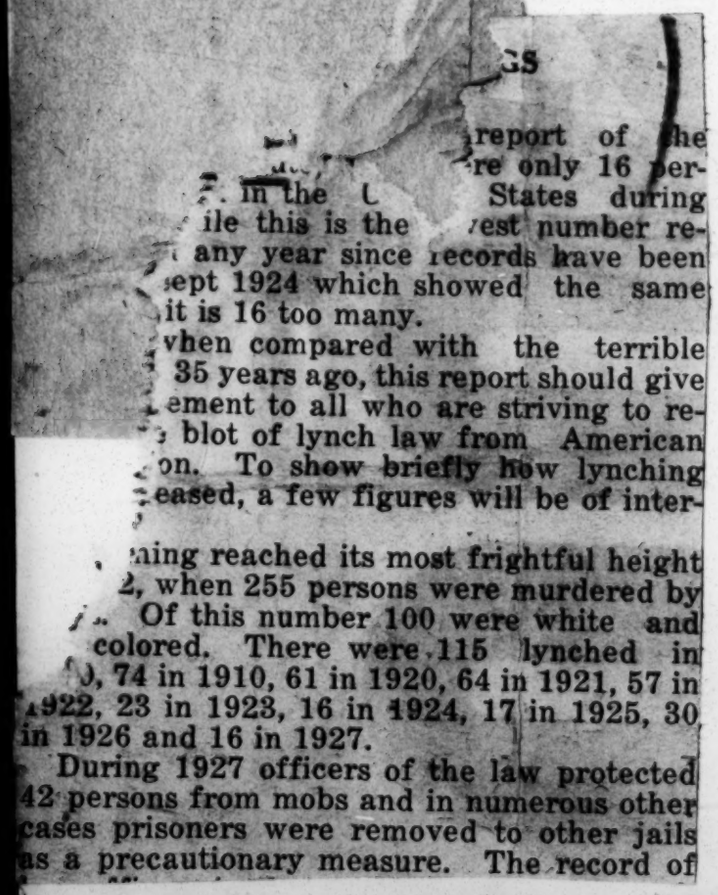
Glencoe, Minn., Republic
THURSDAY, JANUARY 12, 1928



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HATTIESBURG, MISS., AMERICAN
JANUARY 14, 1928

GUARDING MISSISSIPPI'S REPUTATION

The Montgomery Advertiser finds occasion for genuine satisfaction in the fact that when Principal Moton of Tuskegee published figures relative to the nation's lynching record for 1927, "the cold figures showed, happily and not at all to our surprise, that Alabama's record for the last twelve months is again clean." The Advertiser goes on to point out that Alabama has not stooped to this form of barbarism for the last three years.

Mississippi and Alabama are sister states, made up in large measure of the same type of people. Why is it that Mississippi during the year 1927 is credited with seven of the nation's total of sixteen mob murders and Alabama none at all? The answer is found in the fact that in Alabama sheriffs and police officers shoot to kill in the defense of their prisoners, while in Mississippi, all too frequently, weak-kneed officers are afraid "somebody" will get hurt.

One reason for the diligence, aye, even the valor, of the Alabama sheriffs lies in the fact that the framers of Alabama's constitution inserted a clause outlining summary proceedings for removing an officer who failed to do his duty in such an emergency. The Mississippi constitution, on the other hand, granted to the legislature full power to prescribe conditions under which sheriffs and other officers might be removed, but our legislature has never seen fit to take positive action under this broad grant of power.

When all our southern neighbors have driven out the accursed lynchers under the leadership of courageous officials, and Mississippi stands alone among the sisterhood in condoning this frightful crime, the great body of our people may wake up to the fact that it is high time we do something about it. Meanwhile neighboring southern states are capitalizing their own clean records and pointing the finger of scorn at Mississippi. With nearly half the nation's total of mob murders to our everlasting discredit, what answer can we make to our accusers?

It is to be hoped that the next time lawless bands of hate-cursed hoodlums seek to rape the law and take prisoners from their custody, the 82 Mississippi sheriffs who took office on January 1 will remember that they are guardians of Mississippi's reputation as well as defenders of her laws.

PATERSON N. J PRESS GUARD
DECEMBER 30, 1927

Lynchings Decrease.

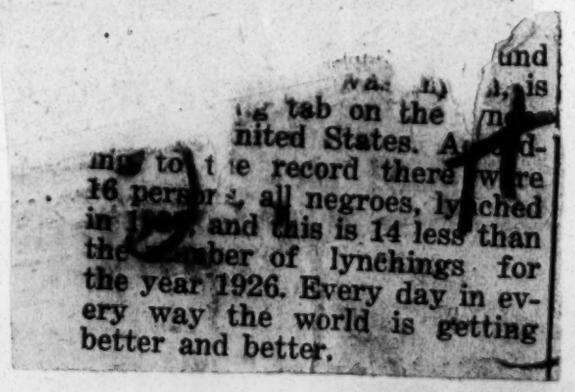
A report on lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research shows there were sixteen persons lynched in 1927. This is fourteen less than the number thirty for 1926, one less than the number seventeen for 1925, the same number sixteen as for 1924 and seventeen less than the number thirty-three for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were forty-two instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern states and thirty-four in Southern states. In twenty-four of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In eighteen other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, fifteen white and fifty-three negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, seven; attempted murder, two; rape, two; attempted rape, three; improper conduct, one; charge not reported, one.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, three; Kentucky, one; Louisiana, one; Mississippi, seven; Missouri, one; Tennessee, two; Texas, one.

SAN SABA, TEX., STAR
JANUARY 19, 1928



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ery way the world is getting
better and better.

Lynchings-1927
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan. -Dec.

2639

NOWATA OK. STAR
JANUARY 15, 1928

FEWER LYNCHINGS.

According to the annual report of the Tuskegee Institute there were only 16 persons lynched in the United States during 1927. While this is the lowest number recorded in any year since records have been kept, except 1924, which showed the same number, it is 16 too many.

Still, when compared with the terrible record of 35 years ago, this report should give encouragement to all who are striving to remove the blot of lynch law from American civilization. To show briefly how lynching has decreased, a few figures will be of interest.

Lynching reached its most frightful height in 1892, when 255 persons were murdered by mobs. Of this number, 100 were white and 155 colored. There were 115 lynched in 1900, 74 in 1910, 61 in 1920, 64 in 1921, 57 in 1922, 33 in 1923, 16 in 1924, 17 in 1925, 30 in 1926, and 16 in 1927.

During 1927, officers of the law protected 42 persons from mobs and in numerous other cases prisoners were removed to other jails as a precautionary measure. The record of law officers in this respect has shown much improvement in recent years. It is chiefly to the courage and determination of sheriffs and other officers that the lessening of the lynching evil is due.

BOWLING GREEN, KY., COURIER
JANUARY 4, 1928

Lynching Statistics

The following statistics, given today by Tuskegee Institute of Alabama regarding lynching in America during 1927 are interesting, especially to the law-abider, who notices with a degree of satisfaction that the "Judge Lynch" law has decreased in the number of states. However, Kentucky, with an unstained record in 1926, had one lynching during the past year.

The statistics follow:

There were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from deaths at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were; murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississipi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

CLINTON IA ADVERTISER
JANUARY 14, 1928

FEWER LYNCHINGS

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AUGUSTA (GEORGIA) HERALD
JAN - 8 1928

services now.

A CLEAN SLATE FOR GEORGIA

THE SOUTH-HATERS and critics of the South, whenever a lynching occurs, take it as a sweet morsel and condemn the whole citizenship of the state in which the incident occurred. The record for the year 1927 shows a clean slate for Georgia, and only 16 persons were lynched in the entire South. These figures are official, and were compiled by the research department of the Tuskegee Industrial Institute, in Alabama.

The persons lynched were all negroes. Seven states are represented in the list. Mississippi leads the other states with a total of seven, while Arkansas comes next with three, and two in Tennessee, while one each was lynched in Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas. The report is most illuminating and encouraging for the improvement of the citizenship. In 1926 only one lynching occurred in this state. Our people are growing stronger and stronger in their opposition to mob law and outbreaks of like character. Our people believe in the law and respect the courts. They believe that everyone should have a fair trial, and, if found guilty, then impose punishment in keeping with the crime committed.

One of the most encouraging features of the report made by the Tuskegee Institute is that in 42 instances mob law was prevented by action of constituted authorities of the law; 34 were in the South, while eight were in the northern states.

In the past, court procedure and delays in enforcing the laws have been responsible for the outbreaks on the part of citizens in many instances. If such cases were tried without delay and the guilty parties convicted and forced to serve their sentences or pay the toll of their deeds with their lives, there would be fewer cases of lynchings. Long drawn-out trials and miscarriage of justice has caused many lynchings, not only in the Southland, but in all sections of the nation. However, our people are growing saner and curbing their impulse to lynch on provocations other than for one crime. The crime of rape arouses our people to action of violating the law by enforcing the unwritten law. To their credit, however, cases of this character are growing fewer each year, and with speedy action on the part of the courts, such outbreaks will cease.

KNOXVILLE, TENN., J'NL & TRIBUNE
JANUARY 11, 1928

Mobs in the Southern States.

Dr. Robert R. Moton, successor of the immortal Booker Washington, founder of that great Tuskeegee institute in Alabama has recently made his annual report concerning lynchings in the south. That fine old newspaper, the Montgomery Advertiser, has read what was said by Dr. Moton, has commented and has also given something on the barbarous matter of lynching.

The figures given pertaining to lynching relate to the year 1927 and in respect to what the figures show the Montgomery Advertiser remarks: "Naturally in examing this report we hastened to see what the cold figures showed for Alabama. Happily, and not at all to our surprise, it is found that Alabama's record for the last twelve months is again clean. We had no lynchings in this state in 1927. We have had none since 1925, we believe." It may be added, that when the last federal census was taken that two out of every five of the population were black.

But respecting lynching, the Houston Post-Dispatch thinks "that the steady improvement in the lynching situation makes it unlikely that congress will enact a federal anti-lynching law." That great southern newspaper pays special tribute to those officers of the law in the south who have done so much to check the mob spirit.

It may be added that the press of the south, with few, if any exceptions at all, has done a large part in the abandonment of the heathenish practice of mob executions, that to the extent it has existed and practiced has given a black spot to American civilization.

CHARLESTON, W. VA.
Jan. 16, 1928

1927 Lynching Record

To the department of records and research of Tuskegee Institute we are indebted for a complete survey of the annual lynching record in the United States. While there is still ground for improvement, the record, nevertheless, is an encouraging one, as it shows a total of sixteen for 1927 as compared with thirty for the preceding year. The following is the record by states: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1. We presume the record is for the entire country although only southern states are listed.

Several interesting things may be noted from the above. First and foremost is the grisly shame of Mississippi, which alone contributed almost half of the total number of lynchings. Next we note that in the South Atlantic seaboard states there was not a single lynching during the year. North and South Carolina, Georgia, Florida and Alabama had a clean record so far as lynchings were concerned. The first four states are to be highly commended, but Alabama's record of no lynching is indelibly marred by a reign of violence in which scores of people were whipped and flogged. Efforts were made to bring the offenders to justice—real, serious efforts—but they failed because no indictments could be found in spite of the plainest sort of evidence. It forced the attorney general of that state to throw up his hands for the time being.

On the whole, however, the above record is commendable. It shows that the pressure of public opinion, the activity of the press and the increasing sense of responsibility among public officials are being felt. However, it is only too true to say that the record falls just sixteen short of what it should be.

In this connection be it noted that West Virginia again has a clean slate. Not for many years have we been listed with offending sisters in this respect. West Virginia is law-abiding and believes in letting justice take its course. Wonder why some of the metropolitan newspapers never have looked up our record in this respect?

WICHITA FALLS, TEX., TIMES
JANUARY 14, 1928

FEWER LYNCHINGS.

There were fewer lynchings during 1927 than in any previous year, except one, since records of such things have been kept, according to Dr. Robert R. Moton of Tuskegee Institute, where such information is compiled. There were 16 lynchings reported, as compared with 30 in 1926, 17 in 1925, 16 in 1924, 33 in 1923, 57 in 1922, 64 in 1921, 61 in 1920, 83 in 1919 and 64 in 1918. These figures for the ten-year period show a marked waning of the urge to wreak summary "justice."

Mississippi staged seven of the 1927 lynchings, Arkansas 3, Tennessee 2, Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas, one each. In the ten-year period, however, Texas is second among the states in number of lynchings, having a total of 63, Mississippi having 75. In the years starting with 1882, there were 469 lynchings in Texas, and 522 in Mississippi. It is not pleasant to record that Texas had one lynching last year, but at that, our state is less of an offender than it used to be, much less.

There were seven lynchings in Texas in 1926; the Greensboro, N. C. Daily News suggests that this was "probably due to oil booms and the confusion they always cause."

The figures for the past decade show a pretty consistent decline in these ugly figures. Some commentators attribute it to the threat held out by efforts to pass the Dyer anti-lynching bill. That may have been a contributing factor, but it is not the chief factor. The chief factor is that Texas and the South have come to understand the folly that lynching involves. Press, bar and public opinion not only fail to condone it, but they are outspoken in condemnation of it.

CLINTON IA ADVERTISER
JANUARY 14, 1928

FEWER LYNCHINGS

According to the annual report of the Tuskegee Institute, there were only 16 persons lynched in the United States during 1927. While this is the lowest number recorded in any year since records have been kept, except 1924 which showed the same number, it is 16 too many.

Still, when compared with the terrible record of 35 years ago, this report should give encouragement to all who are striving to remove the blot of lynch law from American civilization. To show briefly how lynching has decreased, a few figures will be of interest.

Lynching reached its most frightful height in 1892, when 255 persons were murdered by mobs. Of this number 100 were white and 155 colored. There were 115 lynched in 1900, 74 in 1910, 61 in 1920, 64 in 1921, 57 in 1922, 33 in 1923, 16 in 1924, 17 in 1925, 30 in 1926 and 16 in 1927.

During 1927 officers of the law protected 42 persons from mobs and in numerous other cases prisoners were removed to other jails as a precautionary measure. The record of law officers in this respect has shown much improvement in recent years. It is chiefly to the courage and determination of sheriffs and other officers that the lessening of the lynching evil is due.

RUSHVILLE, ILL. TIMES
Wednesday, Jan. 18, 1928

FEWER LYNCHINGS IN 1927

According to the annual report of the Tuskegee Institute, there were only sixteen persons lynched in the United States during 1927. While this is the lowest number recorded in any year since records have been kept, except 1924, which showed the same number, it is sixteen too many.

Still, when compared with the terrible record of thirty-five years ago, this report should give encouragement to all who are striving to remove the blot of lynch law from American civilization. To show briefly how lynching has decreased, a few figures will be of interest.

Lynching reached its most frightful height in 1822, when 255 persons were murdered by mobs. Of this number 100 were white and 155 colored. There were 115 lynched in 1900, 74 in 1910, 61 in 1920, 64 in 1921, 57 in 1922, 33 in 1923, 16 in 1924, 17 in 1925, 30 in 1926 and 16 in 1927.

During 1927 officers of the law protected forty-two persons from mobs and in numerous other cases prisoners were removed to other jails as a precautionary measure. The record of law officers in this respect has shown much improvement in recent years. It is chiefly to the courage and determination of sheriffs and other officers that the lessening of the lynching evil is due.

Business-1927

Lynchings -1927
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan. - Dec.

2640

Shelbyv'le. Tenn., Gazette
Wednesday, Jan. 25. 1928

LYNCHING... FOR YEAR 1927.

The following concerning lynchings for the past year is compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research.

There were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, less than the number for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923.

12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails, 4 of the prisoners were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, 3 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder 7; attempted murder 2; rape 2, attempted rape 3; improper conduct 1; charge not reported 1.

The states in which lynching occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas 3; Kentucky 1; Louisiana 1; Mississippi 7; Missouri 1; Tennessee 2; Texas 1.

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Still, when compared with the terrible record of 35 years ago, this report should give encouragement to all who are striving to remove the blot of lynch law from American civilization. To show briefly how lynching has decreased, a few figures will be of interest.

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TEMPLE OK TRIBUNE
JANUARY 12, 1928

...EVENT THURSDAY

FEWER LYNCHINGS.

According to the annual report of the Tuskegee Institute, there were only 16 persons lynched in the United States during 1927. While this is the lowest number recorded in any year since records have been kept, except 1924 which showed the same number, it is 16 too many.

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BISHOP TEX NEWS
JANUARY 20, 1928

FEWER LYNCHINGS.

According to the annual report of the Tuskegee Institute, there were only 16 persons lynched in the United States during 1927. While this is the lowest number recorded in any year since records have been kept, except 1924 which showed the same number, it is 16 too many.

Still, when compared with the terrible record of 35 years ago, this report should give encouragement to all who are striving to remove the blot of lynch law from American civilization. To show briefly how lynching has decreased, a few figures will be of interest.

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During 1927 officers of the law protected 42 persons from mobs and in numerous other cases prisoners were removed to other jails as a precautionary measure. The record of law officers in this respect has shown much improvement in recent years. It is chiefly to the courage and determination of sheriffs and other officers that the lessening of the lynching evil is due.

CANANDAIGUA (NY) MESENGER
January 14. 1928

FEWER LYNCHINGS

According to the annual report of the Tuskegee Institute, there were only 16 persons lynched in the United States during 1927. While this is the lowest number recorded in any year since records have been kept, except 1924 which showed the same number, it is 16 too many.

Still, when compared with the terrible record of 35 years ago, this report should give encouragement to all who are striving to remove the blot of lynch law from American civilization. To show briefly how lynching has decreased, a few figures will be of interest.

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Vian Okla Pres
JANUARY 13, 1928

LYNCHING RECORDS

16 persons were lynched during 1927 ,according to statistics compiled by Tuskegee Institute of Tuskege, Alabama.

This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926; 1 less than the number 17 for 1927, the same number, 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails; 4 of the persons were burned to death 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned .

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings; 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken . In 18 other

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Lynching reached its most frightful height in 1822, when 255 persons were murdered by mobs. Of this number, 100 were white and 155 colored. There were 115 lynched in 1909, 74 in 1910, 61 in 1920, 64 in 1921, 57 in 1922, 33 in 1923, 16 in 1924, 17 in 1925, 30 in 1926 and 16 in 1927.

During 1927, officers of the law protected 42 persons from mobs and in numerous other cases prisoners were removed to other jails as a precautionary measure. The record of law officers in this respect has shown much improvement in recent years. It is chiefly to the courage and determination of sheriffs and other officers that the lessening of the lynching evil is due. Ex.

BALTIMORE MD. MORN. SUN
DECEMBER 23, 1927

Lynching On Decrease.

Washington, Dec. 22 (AP). Lynching is on the decrease in the South, Robert R. Moton, principal of the Tuskegee Institute told President Coolidge today during a call at the White House.

OQUAWKA (ILL.) JOURNAL
Thursday, Jan. 26, 1928

easy victories never would reveal.—Ex.

FEWER LYNCHINGS IN 1927

According to the annual report of the Tuskegee Institute, there were only sixteen persons lynched in the United States during 1927. While this is the lowest number recorded in any year since records have been kept, except 1924, which showed the same number, it is sixteen too many.

Still, when compared with the terrible record of thirty-five years ago, this report should give encouragement to all who are striving to remove the blot of lynch law from American civilization. To show

Lynchings-1927
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan. -Dec.

2641

ST. LOUIS, MO., CHRISTIAN-EVANGELIST
JANUARY 19, 1928

Lynchings in 1927 In the United States

FIGURES compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, show that 16 persons were lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails; 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings; 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers; 67 persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were—murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas 1.

GATESVILLE TEX MESSENGER
JANUARY 13, 1928

FEWER LYNCHINGS

According to the annual report of the Tuskegee Institute, there were only 16 persons lynched in the United States during 1927. While this is the lowest number recorded in any year since records have been kept, except in 1924 which showed the same number, it is 16 too many.

Still, when compared with the terrible record of 35 years ago, this report should give enconragement to all who are striving to remove the blot of lynch law from American civilization. To show briefly how lynching has decreased, a few figures will be of interest.

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During 1927 officers of the law protected 42 persons from mobs and in numerous other cases prisoners were removed to other jails as a precautionary measure. The record of law officers in this respect has shown much improvement in recent years. It is chiefly to the courage and determination of sheriffs and other officers that the lessening of the lynching evil is due.

MARCY ARK. CITIZEN
JANUARY 10, 1928

LYNCHINGS DECREASE.

Robert R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Institute, Alabama, a negro normal and industrial school, sends us the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research. He says: "I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number, 30, for 1926, one less than the number, 17, for 1925, the same number, 16, as for 1924, and 17 less than the number, 33, for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

"There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed o rthe guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 write and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas 1.

MANCHESTER, TENN., TIMES
JANUARY 20, 1928

Lynching Record For Year 1927

The following concerning lynchings for the past year is compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research.

There were 16 person lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926 1 less than the number 1 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923.

12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the prisoners were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, 3 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guerds augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were—murder 7; attempted murder, 2; rape 2 attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynching occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

Port Jervis (NY) Gazette
Jan12,1928

Johnell, will return to their home, in Johnson City, on Friday.

16 Persons Were Lynched in South During Year 1927

According to the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were forty-two instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern states and thirty-four in Southern states. In twenty-four of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In eighteen other instances armed force was used to repel the would-be-lynchers. Sixty-eight persons fifteen white and fifty-three Negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

GENESEO (NY) STAR
January 4, 1928

Lynchings During 1927

The record of lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research is as follows: There were 16 persons lynched in 1927, 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, one less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924, and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923; 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law; six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails; four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings; eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers; 68 persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

RIDGEFIELD, WASH., REFLECTOR
JANUARY 19, 1928

FEWER LYNCHINGS

According to the annual report of the Tuskegee Institute, there were only 16 persons lynched in the United States during 1927. While this is the lowest number recorded in any year since records have been kept, except 1924 which showed the same number, it is 16 too many.

Still, when compared with the terrible record of 35 years ago, this report should give encouragement to all who are striving to remove the blot of lynch law from American civilization. To show briefly how lynching has decreased, a few figures will be of interest.

Lynching reached its most frightful height in 1892, when 255 persons were murdered by mobs. Of this number 100 were white and 155 colored. There were 115 lynched in 1900, 74 in 1910, 61 in 1920, 64 in 1921, 57 in 1922, 33 in 1923, 16 in 1924, 17 in 1925, 30 in 1926 and 16 in 1927.

During 1927 officers of the law protected 42 persons from mobs and in numerous other cases prisoners were removed to other jails as a precautionary measure. The record of law officers in this respect has shown much improvement in recent years. It is chiefly to the courage and determination of sheriffs and other officers that the lessening of the lynching evil is due.

NEW YORK TIMES
January 2, 1928

SIXTEEN LYNCHINGS IN 1927.

Total Was Fourteen Less Than in 1926—Occurred in Seven States.

Special to The New York Times.

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 1.—Sixteen persons were lynched in the United States in 1927, according to the Departments of Records and Research of Tuskegee Institute. This was fourteen less than the number for 1926, one less than the number for 1925, the same number as for 1924 and seventeen less than the number for 1923.

Twelve of the persons lynched were

taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death and two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were forty-two instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern States and thirty-four in Southern States. In twenty-four of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In eighteen other instances armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty eight persons—fifteen white and fifty three negroes—were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, seven; attempted murder two; rape, two; attempted rape three; improper conduct, one; charg not reported, one.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas, three; Kentucky, one; Louisiana, one; Mississippi, seven; Missouri, one; Tennessee, two: Texas, one.

[illegible] PROGRESS
Wednesday, Jan. 18, 1928

REPORT OF LYNCHINGS FOR THE PAST YEAR

Concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Dept. of Records and Research, there were 16 persons lynched in 1927.

This is 14 less that the number, 30 for 1926, 1 less for the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924, and 17 less than the number 333 for 1923; 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies were burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented the lynchings; 8 of these were in the Northern States and 34 in Southern States.

In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 5 3negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows; Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas. 1.

COLUMBUS (GEORGIA) SUN
January 7. 1928

y a mob.

GEORGIA HAS CLEAN SLATE AS TO LYNCHINGS

(*From Rome News-Tribune.*)

The report of lynchings in the United States during the past year shows Georgia with a clean slate as far as this crime against government goes while the total for the country for the year was less than the year before. The report as compiled by Dr. Robert R. Moton, principal at Tuskegee institute in Alabama, shows a total of 16 persons lynched during 1927.

All of these persons lynched were negroes. Seven of them were put to death in Mississippi, three in Arkansas, and two in Tennessee, while one each was lynched in Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas.

Georgia in 1926 had one lynching against it and the clean slate in 1927 is a welcome record.

There is a growing sentiment in Georgia and the entire country for that matter, to let the courts take their course. There is no better illustration of this than when in 1926 eleven men charged with murder in connection with the lynching of a negro were sentenced to the state penitentiary in varying terms ranging from one year to life imprisonmeat.

Mob law is without excuse; it is a deadening blow struck at the very foundation of the law the mob members believe has been outraged when they take it into their own hands.

It is noteworthy in the report made by Dr. Moton that in 42 instances mob law was prevented from prevailing by action of recognized authorities of the law. Of these 42 instances thirty-four were in the south and eight were in northern cities.

PENN YAN (N.Y.) EXPRESS
January 12, 1928

Fewer Lynchings In 1927, Writes Tuskegee Principal

Tuskegee Institute, Alabama,
December 31, 1927.

Editor Chronicle-Express:

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, one less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, seven; attempted murder, two; rape, two; attempted rape, three; improper conduct, one; charge not reported, one.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, three; Kentucky, one; Louisiana, one; Mississippi, seven; Missouri, one; Tennessee, two; Texas, one.

Yours very truly,
R. R. MOTON,
Principal.

COLUMBUS (GEORGIA) S
January 7. 1928

ALABAMA'S RECORD UNSTAINED BY LYNCHING

(*From Anniston Star.*)

Alabama passed through 1927 without a lynching to mar its record. In statistics compiled by the Tuskegee Institute of Records and Research, it is shown that there were sixteen persons lynched during 1927, all in Southern states, but not one life was sacrificed at the hands of a mob in this state.

Mississippi tops the list with seven lynchings; Arkansas is next with three; Tennessee had two, while Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas had one each.

The total number of lynchings for the year is fourteen less than the total in 1926 when thirty were reported. However, it is only one below the number in 1925 and exactly the same as in 1924. In 1923, which leads all other years covered in the Tuskegee report in the matter of lynchings, there were thirty-three persons killed by mobs.

An encouraging portion of the report is that officers of the law acted to prevent forty-two attempted or threatened lynchings, and saved the lives of 68 persons who might otherwise have been the victims of enraged bands of men. Movements to thwart mobs in twenty-four instances took the form of augmented guards or spiriting prisoners away to other jails, while in eighteen other cases, armed force was used to repel would-be lynchers.

Sixteen persons lynched are too many. That places a dark enough blot on the record of the South as a whole. One such affair is too many. There should not be any lynchings. But there is some satisfaction in knowing that nearly three times as many lynchings were prevented as were allowed to occur. A disposition on the part of officers everywhere to prevent mob killings is indicated.

Alabama's clean slate in 1927 will be a source of pride to every resident of the state, and it is to be hoped that never again will the name of this commonwealth be smirched with the taking of the life of a human being

Bad—not

COLUMBUS (GEORGIA) SU
January 7. 1928

FACTS SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES

(*From Greensboro Daily News.*)

The old theory that the mobs of the south murder because the south is determined to keep its women from attack by men ought by now to have been buried as deep as the bodies of the victims of mobs. But for all that has been done to the theory it shows an amazing vitality. It is still cited often as the reason why lynchings are more popular below the Mason and Dixon line than elsewhere. Behind this pretense of protecting womanhood, holding honor inviolate and preserving the home is the most reasonable defense that believers in mob rule can cite. They still do it, in the face of the fact that every study of lynchings shows the most frequent crime is not that against women.

The figures for 1927, announced by Tuskegee institute, tell the story again. Of the 16 lynchings the department of records and research of the institute has listed one is described as due to an unknown cause. Another is listed as caused by "improper conduct", which presumably might be a first step in a contemplated attack against a woman, although that is by no means sure. Three are attributed to attempted criminal assault, and two to criminal assault. Seven were due to murder and two more to attempted murder. If the two instances of criminal assault, and three of attempted criminal assault and the one instance of "improper conduct" are combined, there are six lynchings under this classification. But beside that must be placed the nine lynchings attributed to murder and attempted murden and a tenth to an unknown cause.

There is nothing surprising in that report. Year after year Tuskegee has made reports closely similar to it. Every study of the actual events which infuriate men to mob action reveals virtually the same facts. Over the whole period during which records have been kept on lynchings the facts are the same. Murder always leads. Attacks on women are present, but always in the minority. The past year shows a slightly higher ratio than usual, but even so the full record shows that nearly 80 per cent. of the lynchings are due to causes other than criminal assault.

These facts speak for themselves. *They reduce to absurdity the plea that the south's women can be protected only by mob murder after an attack.* If the records showed only those lynchings caused by this crime, the records would show only about one-fifth as many lynchings.

AMSTERDAM (NY) RECORDER
January 6, 1928

by Mrs. Harlan B. Hays.

Lynchings in 1927.

The following were the lynchings in the last year as compiled by Tuskegee institute in the department of records and research. There were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number, 30, for 1926, one less than the number, 17, for 1925, the same number, 16, for 1924, and 17 less than the number, 33, for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

Newspapers 1927

Lynchings- 1927
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan. -Dec.

2642

DALLAS, TEX., DISPATCH
JANUARY 14, 1928

LYNCHING DECREASES ACCORDING TO TUSKEGEE RECORD

Tuskegee, Ala., Jan. 14—The following is the record of lynching for 1927 as contained in the annual press letter of Dr. Robert R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee:

Dear Sir:

I send you the following concerning lynching for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less the number 30 for 1926, less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923, 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails, 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers, 68 persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of these persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

Yours very truly,
R. R. MOTON,
Principal.

LEBANON [illegible] PRESS
FRIDAY, January 20, 1928.

FEWER LYNCHINGS

According to the annual report of the Tuskegee Institute, there were only 16 persons lynched in the United States during 1927. While this is the lowest number recorded in any year since records have been kept, except 1924 which showed the same number, it is 16 too many.

Still, when compared with the terrible record of 35 years ago, this report should give encouragement to all who are striving to remove the blot of lynch law from American civilization. To show briefly how lynching has decreased, a few figures will be of interest.

Lynching reached its most frightful height in 1892, when 255 persons were murdered by mobs. Of this number 100 were white and 155 colored. There were 115 lynched in 1900, 74 in 1910, 61 in 1920, 64 in 1921, 57 in 1922, 33 in 1923, 16 in 1924, 17 in 1925, 30 in 1926 and 16 in 1927.

During 1927 officers of the law protected 42 persons from mobs and in numerous other cases prisoners were removed to other jails as a precautionary measure. The record of law officers in this respect has shown much improvement in recent years. It is chiefly to the courage and determination of sheriffs and other officers that the lessening of the lynching evil is due.

Bay Minette Daily News
1-19-28

STATISTICS FROM TUSKEGEE SHOW DECREASE IN LYNCHING

Dear Sir:

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institue in the Department of Records and Research. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jail and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which the officers of the law prevented lynching. 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern States. In 24, of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augumented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 ngeroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct 1; charge not reported 1.

The states in which lynching occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi 7; Missouri 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas 1.

Yours very truly
R. R. Moton, Principle

HARRIMAN TENN. RECORD (wk)
JANUARY 6, 1928

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1927 LYNCHINGS

Information concerning lynchings for past year compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research shows that 16 persons were lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923.

Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death and two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct 1; charge not reported 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

COLUMBUS (GEORGIA) SUN
January 7. 1928

OUR LYNCHING RECORD

(From Chattanooga Times.)

Sixteen persons, all negroes, were lynched in this country last year, according to statistics compiled by the department of records and research, of Tuskegee Institute. The states in which the crimes were committed and the number listed in each were as follows; Mississippi, 7; Arkansas, 3; Tennessee, 2; Kentucky, 1; Louiiana, 1; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1. The offenses with which the victims were charged included murder, assault, attempted assault and improper conduct. Death was inflicted on some by shooting, and on others by hanging, while four were burned alive.

This record, which is a national disgrace and an international scandal, shows that, for all our vaunted superiority in the matter of self-government, there are in the United States a considerable number of men who are far from being qualified for the responsibilities of self-government — men who, under the provocation of crime aggravated by race prejudice, succumb to the spirit of the mob and proceed to override the authority of the state and deprive fellow-beings of their lives, sometimes in the most barbarous manner.

There is, however, reason to believe that the number of such individuals is steadily growing smaller. The sixteen lynchings in 1927 represented considerable improvement over 1926, when there were 30. The record was lower than that of 1925, with 17 deaths at the hands of mobs, and equaled that of 1924, the previous low year. It was a tremendous improvement over 1917, with its 38 lynchings; a still greater one over 1908, with its 100 victims of mob violence. Going back still further, it is seen that the country has indeed traveled a long way on the road to a lynchless era, for in 1901 there were 135 lynchings, in 1893, 200, and in 1892, 255.

This improvement has come about through the growth of public sentiment against mob violence and through greater effort on the part of some officers of the law to keep prisoners from falling into the hands of mobs. Last year, for instance, forty-two lynchings were prevented by officers who had the intelligence to outwit lawless gangs or the courage to withstand them. Nevertheless, six of the sixteen individuals lynched last year were taken from jails and six others from officers outside jails, and responsibility for the lynching of these twelve persons undoubtedly rests in some measure, if not wholly in some instances, upon the officers who failed, forgot their sworn duty, and gave way in the presence of the mobs demanding their charges.

In its efforts to stamp out mob executions, the country has need of more sheriffs, deputies and jailers, who have the courage and the ability to remain in control of the situation when the mob spirit is running riot. It also has need of some serious effort on the part of law-enforcement authorities to bring lynchers into court and punish them for their crimes against their victims and their states. And few states have greater need for these things than Tennessee, for it was disgraced by two mob executions in 1927, and not a single lyncher was so much as indicted.

HAZARD KY. HERALD (wk)
JANUARY 10, 1928

LYNCHING FALLS OFF DURING 1927

SIXTEEN MEET VIOLENT DEATHS FOR CRIMES COMMITTED IN PAST YEAR; DECREASE OF FOURTEEN.

Statistics compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research show that only sixteen persons were lynched during the year 1927, a decrease of fourteen from the number of 30 for 1926. The report shows that the number of lynchings were one less than the 17 for 1925, the same number of 16 for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons

lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the number were burned to death while two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings; 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were—murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

BASTROP, TEX., ADVERTISER
JANUARY 5, 1928

NUMBER OF LYNCHINGS DECREASE

Tuskegee

The number of lynchings for the year 1927 has decreased over the number of the past four years. According to the records and reseach department of the different schools over the state. The following report shows the number during the past four years;

There were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails, 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers.

68 persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offense charged were murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occured and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

ARLINGTON (TEX.) JOURNAL
DECEMBER 30, 1927

RECORD OF LYNCHINGS FOR YEAR OF 1927

The Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute gives out the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were—murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

MADISON, KS., NEWS
JANUARY 12, 1928

FEWER LYNCHINGS

According to the annual report of the Tuskegee Institute, there were only 16 persons lynched in the United States during 1927. While this is the lowest number recorded in any year since records have been kept except 1924 which showed the same number, it is 16 too many.

Still, when compared with the terrible record of 35 years ago, this report should give encouragement to all who are striving to remove the blot of lynch law from American civilization. To show briefly how lynching has decreased, a few figures will be of interest.

Lynching reached its most frightful height in 1892, when 255 persons were murdered by mobs. Of this number 100 were white and 155 colored. There were 115 lynched in 1900, 74 in 1910, 61 in 1920, 64 in 1921, 57 in 1922, 33 in 1923, 16 in 1924, 17 in 1925, 30 in 1926 and 16 in 1927.

During 1927 officers of the law protected 42 persons from mobs and in numerous other cases prisoners were removed to other jails as a precautionary measure. The record of law officers in this respect has shown much improvement in recent years It is chiefly to the courage and determination of sheriffs and other officers that the lessening of the lynching evil is due.

SALLISAW, OKLA., DEMOCRAT
JANUARY 13, 1928

LYNCHING RECORDS

16 persons were lynched during 1927 according to statistics compiled by Tuskegee Institute of Tuskegee, Alabama.

This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926; 1 less than the number 17 for 1927, the same number, 16, as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails; 4 of the persons were burned to death 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings; 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape ,2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct 1; charge not reported 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state ar eas follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisana, 1; Mississippi, 1 Missouri 7; Tennessee, 2; Texas 1.

FROM Sentinel
Arkansas Gaz
4

THE STATE OF LYNCHING.

The practice of Tuskegee Institute in keeping a complete comparative record of the statistics of lynching in the United States, and presenting without comment the facts to the American public at the end of each year, is one of its greatest features of public service. It has just furnished the facts and figures for 1927, and they contain some encouragement for those who don't believe in lynching.

The year just closed did not attain a minimum of lynchings, but it had only 16, which was 14 less than in 1926, one less than in 1925, the same number as in 1924 and 17 less than in 1923. There will be occasional lapses, but the tendency is to decrease.

The Tuskegee presentation indicates why, by mentioning the fact that in 1927 officers of the law, by prompt and courageous action, prevented lynchings in 42 instances, saving in all 68 persons from death at the hands of mobs. It is more to the point that in 42 instances a state was saved from conspicuous disgrace by substituting trial by law for mob-murder, often of the most outrageous character. For though there were only 16 lynchings, four of them were by burning alive, and in two other instances the bodies were burned after the lynching. All were acts of passion, and all were committed against Negroes. It naturally follows that all took place in southern states. Mississippi had nearly half of them.

We need never expect, so long as men have passions and so long as mobs are possible, to stamp out lynching wholly. But the time may come when lynching will be followed by such legal punishment that it will be as stealthily committed as are other murders, and never will ve anything like community ap-

DURANGO, COLO., DEMOCRAT
JANUARY 6, 1928

14 LESS LYNCHINGS REPORTED IN 1927, SHOWN BY RECORDS

Tuskegee, Ala., Dec. 31.—Robert R. Moton, president of the Tuskegee Normal & Industrial Institute for Negroes, which was founded by the late Booker T. Washington, gave out the following data, Saturday, relative to the number of lynchings throughout the United States in 1927 as compared with other years, as follows:

There were sixteen persons lynched in 1927. This is fourteen less than the number thirty for 1926; one less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death; 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern

Lynchings - 1927
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan. - Dec.

2643

Port Gibson, Miss., Reveille
JAN 5 1928

16 LYNCHINGS IN 1927

Almost Half of This Number Occurred in Mississippi

Mississippi's lynching record for 1927 was a dark one indeed, 7 of the lynchings occurring in the United States having taken place in this state.

These figures are given out by Tuskegee Institute in the following letter to the press:

"There were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

"There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

"All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

"The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1."

Brookhaven, Miss., Leader
JAN 4 1928

Sixteen Lynched During Past Year

Tuskegee, Ala. — Sixteen negroes were lynched during 1927, it was announced today by Tuskegee Institute on the basis of records compiled by its department of [illegible] and research.

This compared with thirty in the previous year, 17 in 1925, 16 in 1924 and 33 in 1923.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each were: Mississippi 7; Arkansas, 3; Tennessee, 2; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

Four of those lynched were burned to death, the report says and the bodies of two were burned after they had been put to death.

Offenses with which they were charged included murder, assault, attempted assault and improper conduct.

Ronceverte, W. Va., News
JAN 21 1928

FEWER LYNCHINGS.

According to the annual report of the Tuskegee Institute, there were only 16 persons lynched in the United States during 1927. While this is the lowest number recorded in any year since records have been kept, except 1924, which showed the same number, it is 16 too many.

Still, when compared with the terrible record of 35 years ago, this report should give encouragement to all who are striving to remove the blot of lynch law from American civilization. To show briefly how lynching has decreased, a few figures will be of interest.

Lynching reached its most frightful height in 1892, when 255 persons were murdered by mobs. Of this number 100 were white and 155 colored. There were 115 lynched in 1900, 74 in 1910, 61 in 1920, 64 in 1921, 75 in 1922, 33 in 1923, 16 in 1924, 17 in 1925, 30 in 1926, and 16 in 1927.

During 1927, officers of the law protected 42 persons from mobs and in numerous other cases prisoners were removed to other jails as a precautionary measure. The record of law officers in this respect has shown much improvement in recent years. It is chiefly due to the courage and determination of sheriffs and other officers that the lessening of the lynching evil has been accomplished.

JACKSONVILLE, ILL. COUR
SATURDAY, JANUARY 21, 1928

FEWER LYNCHINGS IN 1927

According to the annual report of the Tuskegee Institute, there were only sixteen persons lynched in the United States during 1927. While this is the lowest number recorded in any year since records have been kept, except 1924, which showed the same number, it is sixteen too many.

Still, when compared with the terrible record of thirty-five years ago, this report should give encouragement to all who are striving to remove the blot of lynch law from American civilization. To show briefly how lynching has decreased, a few figures will be of interest.

Lynching reached its most frightful height in 1822, when 255 persons were murdered by mobs. Of this number 100 were white and 155 colored. There were 115 lynched in 1900, 74 in 1910, 61 in 1920, 64 in 1921, 57 in 1922, 33 in 1923, 16 in 1924, 17 in 1925, 30 in 1926 and 16 in 1927.

During 1927 officers of the law protected forty-two persons from mobs and in numerous other cases prisoners were removed to other jails as a precautionary measure. The record of the law officers in this respect has shown much improvement in recent years. It is chiefly to the courage and determination of sheriffs and other officers that the lessening of the lynching evil is due.

WEEPING WATER, NEB., REPUBLICAN
JANUARY 26, 1928

Fewer Lynchings

According to the annual report of the Tuskegee Institute, there were only 16 persons lynched in the United States during 1927. While this is the lowest number recorded in any year since records have been kept, except 1924, which showed the same number, it is 16 too many.

Still, when compared with the terrible record of 35 years ago, this report should give encouragement to all who are striving to remove the blot of lynch law from American civilization. To show briefly how lynching has decreased, a few figures will be of interest:

Lynching reached its most frightful height in 1892, when 255 persons were murdered by mobs. Of this number 100 were white and 155 colored. There were 115 lynched in 1900, 74 in 1910, 61 in 1920, 64 in 1921, 57 in 1922, 33 in 1923, 16 in 1924, 17 in 1925, 30 in 1926 and 16 in 1927.

During 1927 officers of the law protected 42 persons from mobs and in numerous other cases prisoners were removed to other jails as a precautionary measure. The record of law officers in this respect has shown much improvement in recent years. It is chiefly to the courage and determination of sheriffs and other officers that the lessening of the lynch evil is due.

Grangeville, Ida., Free Press
JANUARY 23, 1928

FEWER LYNCHINGS

According to the annual report of the Tuskegee Institute, there were only 16 persons lynched during 1927 in the United States. While this is the lowest number recorded in any year since records have been kept, except 1924, which showed the same number, it is 16 too many.

Still, when compared to the terrible record of 35 years ago, this report should give encouragement to all who are striving to remove the blot of the lynch law from American civilization. To show briefly how lynching has decreased, a few figures will be of interest.

Lynching reached its most frightful height in 1892, when 255 persons were murdered by mobs. Of this number, 100 were white and 155 colored. There were 115 lynched in 1900, 74 in 1910, 61 in 1920, 64 in 1921, 57 in 1922, 33 in 1923, 16 in 1924, 17 in 1925, 30 in 1926 an 16 in 1927.

During 1927 officers of the law protected 42 persons from mobs and in numerous other instances prisoners were removed to other jails as a precautionary measure. The record of law officers in this respect has shown much improvement in recent years. It is chiefly to the courage and determination of sheriffs and other officers that the lessening of the lynch evil is due.

NEW YORK CITY
SUN and GLOBE
MAR 10 1928

[illegible]nem.

16 LYNCHINGS IN 1927

Number Is 14 Less Than in Preceding Year.

Figures compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research show that sixteen persons were lynched in 1927. This is fourteen less than in 1926, one less than in 1925, the same number as in 1924. Twelve of the persons lynched last year were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails; four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were forty-two instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings; eight of these were in Northern States and thirty-four in Southern States. In twenty-four of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In eighteen other instances armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers; sixty-seven persons, fifteen white and fifty-three negroes, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All the persons lynched were negroes, says the Federation News.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2, and Texas, 1.

POCATELLO, IDA., TRIBUNE
JANUARY 25, 1928

Few Lynchings

ACCORDING to the annual report of the Tuskegee Institute, there were only 16 persons lynched in the United States during 1927. While this is the lowest number recorded in any year since records have been kept, except 1924 which showed the same number, it is 16 too many.

Still, when compared with the terrible record of 35 years ago, this report should give encouragement to all who are striving to remove the blot of lynch law from American civilization. To show briefly how lynching has decreased, a few figures will be of interest.

Lynching reached its most frightful height in 1892, when 255 persons were murdered by mobs. Of this number 100 were white and 155 colored. There were 115 lynched in 1900, 74 in 1910, 61 in 1920, 64 in 1921, 57 in 1922, 33 in 1923, 16 in 1924, 17 in 1925, 30 in 1926; and 16 in 1927.

During 1927 officers of the law protected 42 persons from mobs and in numerous other cases prisoners were removed to other jails as a precautionary measure. The record of law officers in this respect has shown much improvement in recent years. It is chiefly to the courage and determination of sheriffs and other officers that the lessening of the lynching evil is due.

GLENDALE, CAL., ENTERPRISE
JANUARY 20, 1928

FEWER LYNCHINGS

According to the annual report of the Tuskegee Institute, there were only 16 persons lynched in the United States during 1927. While this is the lowest number recorded in any year since records have been kept, except 1924 which showed the same number, it is 16 too many.

Still, when compared with the terrible record of 35 years, ago, this report should give encouragement to all who are striving to remove the blot of lynch law from American civilization. To show briefly how lynching has decreased, a few figures will be of interest.

Lynching reached its most frightful height in 1892, when 255 persons were murdered by mobs. Of this number 100 were white and 155 colored. There were 115 lynched in 1900, 74 in 1910, 61 in 1920, 64 in 1921, 57 in 1922, 33 in 1923, 16 in 1924, 17 in 1925, 30 in 1926 and 16 in 1927.

During 1927 officers of the law protected 42 persons from mobs and in numerous other cases prisoners were removed to other jails as a precautionary measure. The record of law officers in this respect has shown much improvement in recent years. It is chiefly to the courage and determination of sheriffs and other officers that the lessening of the lynching evil is due.

POST
BOSTON, MASS.
MAR 25 1928

THE LYNCHING RECORD

The lynching record of the United States continues to improve. More States were free from lynchings in 1927 than ever before.

There was a total of 16 such mob crimes last year, all of which were confined to seven States; that is, there were no lynchings at all in 41 States. Georgia and Florida, for the first time since the records were kept, appear on the honor roll of States, having gone through the year without a lynching.

Six of the seven States in which lynchings occurred last year have been on the honor roll at least once since 1922. Only one State in the country, and this is not named, seems to be incorrigible in having one or more lynchings every year.

Five States in the country, and all five are in New England, never had a lynching. Maine has one of the best records in the country, not having had a lynching since 1885.

Lynchings-1927
Reports on, sent Press,

Jan-Dec.

2644

Cartersville, Ga., Tribune-News

JAN 12 1928

Georgia Free From Lynchings in 1927

There were sixteen persons lynched in the United States in 1927, fourteen less than in 1926 when the number was thirty, according to figures compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state, according to the institute's figures, are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

Georgia, which several times has been unfavorably distinguished by leading the list in the number of lynchings, passed the year 1927 without having a life taken by mob violence.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; not reported, 1.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of these cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances armed force was used to repel would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes, were thus saved from death by mobs.

CAMDEN, N. J.
Argus
JAN 18 1928

Tuskegee Institute Reports Many Less Last Year Than in 1926

Editor Camden Argus:

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16, as for 1924, and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were—murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

Yours very truly,
R. R. MOTON,
Principal, Tuskegee Institute,
Alabama.

BURNED ALIVE IN 1927

BODIES OF TWO BURNED AFTER LYNCHING — TOTAL OF SIXTEEN MURDERED BY MOBS—ALL LYNCHED WERE COLORED

Tuskegee Institute, Ala., December 31, 1927—Lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, show there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or otther precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 colored were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

1-7-28

Offences and States

All of the persons lynched were colored. The offenses charged were —murder 7; attempted murder 2; rape 2; attempted rape 3; improper conduct 1; charge not reported 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas 3; Kentucky 1; Louisiana 1; Mississippi 7; Missouri 1; Tennessee 2; Texas 1.

N. A. A. C. P. CALLS IT 21—MISSISSIPPI LEADS

A decrease in the number of lynchings from 34 in the year 1926 to 21 in the year 1927 is reported by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 69 Fifth Avenue

Mississippi leads with 7 victims of lynching mobs. Tennessee and Arkansas each having a record of 3 lynchings. Florida 2 and the following states each having had one: Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri, North Carolina, Texas and California.

LYNCHING RECORD FOR YEAR 1927

Tuskegee Institute, Ala.,
December '1, 1927.

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30. for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924, and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be-lynchers. Sixty - eight persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

R. R. MOTON,
Principal.

LYNCHINGS DURING THE YEAR

(From The Richmond Times-Dispatch.)

Figures compiled by the Department of Records and Research of Tuskegee Institute on lynchings in the United States during the year reveal a gratifying reduction in their number, as compared with the records of this nefarious business for the preceding twelve months.

During 1927 a total of sixteen persons lost their lives at the hands of mobs, as against thirty in 1926. There were forty-two instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern States and thirty-four in Southern States. Armed forces frequently were employed to repel mobs bent upon taking the law into their own hands. It is estimated that this vigilance and devotion to duty on the part of the authorities saved sixty-eight persons from lynching bees.

While comparison of these outrages for the years 1926 and 1927 are very gratifying, as revealing a reduction of nearly 100 per cent, 1927 does not stand out so brightly when figures for some other twelve months are examined. It was just about an average year in this respect. However, the record of armed resistance to would be lynchers is evidence of a growing protest against such acts of lawlessness, and The Times-Dispatch is looking forward to the day when this form of barbarism will be one with barbarisms of the Dark Ages.

Governor Byrd remarked some time ago that a murderer was a murderer, whether he shot down as an individual or participated in a lynching bee which resulted in death. That expresses the opinion of every law-abiding citizen, no matter where he lives. Orderly government cannot tolerate this aggravated form of disorderliness. If mobs are permitt to do to death men withou semblance of trial by constitut authority, justice has been mocked openly and the courts have become dead governmental timber. It is one of the cherished hopes of civilized peoples everywhere that all men, however debased they may be, are entitled to have their peers sit in judgment upon them; when that principle is scorned the civilization we know has become endangered.

Every participant in a lynching, if it be possible, should be haled to a court of justice and tried for murder, just as the man who, as an individual, kills in cold blood. There is no difference, so far as the law is concerned, in their crimes.

LYNCHING SHOWS A DECREASE BY 14 LAST YEAR

Of Total Number of 16 for 1927 Mississippi Reports 7 Deaths from Mob

ARKANSAS COMES SECOND WITH THREE

Twelve of Persons Meeting Death Were Taken From Hands of the Law

Tuskegee, Ala.—The Tuskegee Institute Department of Records and Research reports 16 persons lynched in 1927, which is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926.

The Department says this number for 1927 is one less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number, 16, for 1924, and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923.

Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails, six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned. All of the persons lynched were Negroes.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were—murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

Yours very truly,
R. R. MOTON, Principal

The states in which the lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, three; Kentucky, one; Louisiana, one; Mississippi, seven; Missouri, one; Tennessee, two; Texas, one.

BANNER
NASHVILLE, TENN.
JAN 2 1928

SIXTEEN LYNCHED IN 1927

Was Fourteen Less Than In 1926 and the Same Number in 1924. All Victims Were Negroes

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 4.—Sixteen persons were lynched in the United States in 1927, according to the Department of Records and Research of Tuskegee Institute. This was fourteen less than the number for 1926 one less than the number for 1925, the same number for 1924 and seventeen less than the number for 1923.

Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death and two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were forty-two instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern states and thirty-four in Southern states. In twenty-four of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In eighteen other instances armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons—fifteen white and fifty-three Negroes—were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, seven; attempted murder, two; rape, two; attempted rape, three; improper conduct, one; charge not reported, one.

played it as an expert.

THE LYNCHING RECO

There is, of course, a c amount of gratification over the that Tuskegee Institute's annual port on lynching shows a new record of these brutal crimes United States, but the people section must still hang their in shame when the matter com for discussion. There were sixteen instances of mob violence in the country during the year just past and every one of them occurred in the South. Mississippi led the roll of dishonor with seven lynchings, Arkansas had three, Tennessee two, and Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas one each. All the victims of organized lawlessness were Negroes, and there was not in evidence after any single one of these crimes the definite expression of outraged public sentiment that would have resulted in running down and bringing to justice those who were responsible for putting an indelible blot on the record of the states where lynch law took things into its hands. The foregoing words are not agreeable, but they are true, and only through looking such situations fair in the face may the South hope to redeem itself once and for all from the worst disgrace that now attaches to it.

Though the South may not feel otherwise than deeply shamed at the phase of the Tuskegee report that deals with lynchings actually perpetrated, it has ground for hope and congratulation in the large number of instances in which courageous officers of the law foiled the plans of mobs and saved their prisoners from gun, rope or fire. Lynchings were prevented on no less than forty-two occasions in 1927, and thirty-four of these instances took place in the South. It is a state of affairs that carries great promise of the final eradication of mob law in this section. It may also be said that the South owes no greater debt of gratitude to any of its citizens than to the men who defied mobs and prevented the utterly disgraceful and inexcusable crimes they would have committed.

If the states of the South desire a model or a pattern in the task of keeping their records clear of the blot of lynching, they need seek no further than North Carolina. Several years ago it was made apparent to those who entertained thoughts of taking the law into their own hands that they would do so at their own great risk. On more than one occasion the whole force of North Carolina's power was turned to the discovery, apprehension and punishment of the participants in a bit of mob violence. The offenders were hunted out, tried, convicted and sentenced. Furthermore, and fully as important, these lynchers were not relieved of their prison sentences by the action of a governor. It became an exceedingly perilous business to join a mob in North Carolina and there have been no mobs worth the mention since. In other words, the best people of North Carolina asserted themselves and demonstrated in practical fashion their horror and disgust and shame at lynching. The emotions felt by North Carolinians are the same as those of the vast majority of people in other states of the South, but they must be expressed in practical ways if they are to be properly effective as a curb to the terrible practices in question.

Marks, Miss., Democrat

Drew, Miss., Leader

JAN 12 1928

Mob Law Now On The Decrease

I send the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less that the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 35 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 69 persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

JAN 5 1928

Sixteen Lynched During Past Year

Tuskegee Institute Makes Annual Report, Showing All Victims Negroes

Tuskegee, Ala., Dec. 31—Sixteen persons, all negroes were lynched during 1927, it was announced today by Tuskegee Institute on the basis of records complied by its department of record and research.

This compared with thirty in the previous year, 17 in 1925, 16 in 1924 and 33 in 1923.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each were listed as follows:

Mississippi 7; Arkansas 3; Tennesee 2; Kentucky 1; Louisiana 1; Missouri 1; Texas 1.

Four of the victims were burned to death, the report said and the bodies of two were burned after they had been put to death.

Offenses with which they were charged included murder, assault, attempted assault and improper conduct.

The report said that of those lynched, six were taken from jail and six seized from officers of the law outside jails.

It added that there were 42 instances in which officers prevented lynchings, 34 in southern states and eight in northern states.

FORREST CITY ARK HERALD
JANUARY 19, 1928

FEWER LYNCHIN

According to the annual report of the Tuskegee Institute, there were only 16 persons lynched in the United States during 1927. While this is the lowest number recorded in any year since records have been kept, except 1924 which showed the same number, it is 16 too many.

Still, when compared with the terrible record of 35 years ago, this report should give encouragement to all who are striving to remove the blot of lynch law from American civilization. To show briefly how lynching has decreased, a few figures will be of interest.

Lynching reached its most frightful height in 1892, when 255 persons were murdered by mobs. Of this number 100 were white and 155 colored. There were 115 lynched in 1900, 74 in 1910, 61 in 1920, 64 in 1921, 57 in 1922, 33 in 1923, 16 in 1924, 17 in 1925, 30 in 1926 and 16 in 1927.

During 1927 officers of the law protected 42 persons from mobs and in numerous other cases prisoners were removed to other jails as a precautionary measure. The record of law officers in this respect has shown much improvement in recent years. It is chiefly to the courage and determination of sheriffs and other officers that the lessening of the lynching evil is due.

Lynchings- 1927
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan. - Dec.
2645

2645

KANSAS CITY, MO., CALL
JANUARY 13, 1928

1927 LYNCHINGS TOTAL 21, SAYS N.A.A.C.P.; TUSKEGEE COUNTS 16

Mississippi Leads the Pack With Seven Killings; Missouri Keeps in the Running With One

NEW YORK.—A decrease in the number of lynchings from 34 in the year 1926 to 21 in the year 1927 is reported by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Mississippi leads with seven victims of lynching mobs, Tennessee and Arkansas each having a record of three lynchings, Florida two, and the following states each having had one: Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri, North Carolina, Texas and California.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People differs from Tuskegee in including as lynchings the beating to death by prisoners in a Los Angeles jail of a white man resembling the kidnaper, William Hickman; the shooting to death by a posse of Joseph Upchurch in Paris, Tennessee; and the shooting by a posse of Thomas Bradshaw near Bailey, North Carolina.

Besides the white prisoner beaten to death in Los Angeles jail, one other white man, Berry Allen, is reported to have been seized by a mob at Mayo, Florida, and thrown into the Suwanee river while being conveyed to a hospital after a fight with a range rider and deputy sheriff.

Of the victims lynched, four were burned alive and the bodies of two others were publicly burned after death. Three of the mob victims were taken from peace officers and jails in Mississippi and one each in Arkansas, Florida, Missouri, Louisiana, Tennessee and Texas. Of the 21 victims only 4 were accused of attack upon a white woman.

A statement from Principal R. R. Moton of Tuskegee, said:

"I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1927 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

"There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

"All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were—murder 7, attempted murder 2, rape 2, attempted rape 3, improper conduct 1, charge not reported 1.

POTEAU OK NEWS
JANUARY 25, 1928

Fewer Lynchings During Past Year

Lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute show 16 persons lynched, 14 less than previous year, one less than in 1925, the same number, 16, as for 1924 and 17 less than the number, 33, for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were—murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; criminal assault, 2; attempted criminal assault, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

Lynching reached its most frightful height in 1892, when 255 persons were murdered by mobs. Of this number 100 were white and 155 colored. There were 115 lynched in 1900, 74 in 1910, 61 in 1920, 64 in 1921, 17 in 1925, 30 in 1926 and 16 in 1927.

During 1927 officers of the law protected forty-two persons from mobs and in numerous other cases prisoners were removed to other jails as a precautionary measure. The record of law officers in this respect has shown much improvement in recent years. It is chiefly to the courage and determination of sheriffs and other officers that the lessening of the lynching evil is due.

DALY CITY, CAL.—RECORD
JANUARY 20, 1928

FEWER LYNCHINGS

According to the annual report of the Tuskegee Institute, there were only sixteen persons lynched in the United States during 1927. While this is the lowest number recorded in any year since records have been kept, except in 1924, which showed the same number, it is sixteen too many.

Still, when compared with the terrible record of thirty-five years ago, this report should give encouragement to all who are striving to remove the blot of lynch law from American civilization. To show briefly how lynching has decreased, a few figures will be of interest.

Fewer Lynchings During 1927

Dr. R. R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Institute, has issued the following statement:

The Year's Lynchings.

Editor of The Eagle:

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number, 30, for 1926; one less than for 1925, the same number as for 1924 and 17 less than for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern States and 34 in Southern States. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

RAINIER, ORE.
REVIEW
JAN 20 1928

FEWER LYNCHINGS

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FERNDALE, CALIF.
ENTERPRISE
JANUARY 20, 1928

FEWER LYNCHINGS

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During 1927 officers of the law protected 42 persons from mobs and in numerous other cases prisoners were removed to other jails as a precautionary measure. The record of law officers in this respect has shown much improvement in recent years. It is chiefly to the courage and determination of sheriffs and other officers that the lessening of the lynching evil is due.

OBSERVER
HOBOKEN, N. J.
JAN 3 1928

LYNCHINGS DECREASE.

The year 1927 closed with a decided decrease in demonstrations of mob rule. The records and research of the Tuskegee Institute show a happy decline in the number of lynchings. Sixteen persons were the victims during the year of crazy, irresponsible mobs, a drop of fourteen compared with the number of lynchings in the year 1926. This shows a gain for law and justice. The lynching bees were all in the Southern States. All the unfortunates deprived of a fair trial were negroes. Mississippi topped the shameful list with seven killed by mobs.

WINSTON SALEM, N. C.
Sentinel
JAN 3 1928

A Record to Maintain

North Carolina should insist with unwavering firmness upon keeping her record of no lynchings for the past six years clean during the present year. Six other states. Virginia, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama and Oklahoma, established no-lynching records during 1927. Each one of these states, with the exception of Oklahoma, touches another; and thus they constitute a solid area of large extent in which not a lynching took place last year. It would be a magnificent thing if this section could repeat its achievement during 1928.

Seven states were marred by lynchings last year. These states are: Mississippi, seven; Arkansas, three; Tennessee, two; Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas, one each. They furnished the total of sixteen lynchings that took place in the South in 1927. Even these gruesome figures are far less murderous than similar dates for each of the years since 1918. In that year there were sixty-four lynchings. The high mark was in 1919 with eighty-three unofficial and illegal executions. In 1924 the number was sixteen, and the following year it was seventeen. In 1926 the total jumped up to thirty.

WATERBURY CONN REPUBLICAN
JANUARY 3, 1928

proved their skill and caution.

The Decline Of Lynching

The annual record of lynchings compiled by Tuskegee Institute shows that 16 persons were lynched in 1927. This compares with 30 for 1926; 17 for 1925; 16 for 1924, and 33 for 1923. Thus it is seen that the marked improvement that began in 1923 has been continued through another year. The average number of lynchings for the last five years has been 22: for the preceding five year period it was 66.

So far as available records show, the drop in lynchings is to be attributed more to a decline in the lynching spirit than to effective police and court action to prevent and punish lynchings. Instances in which officers of the law prevented lynching in 1927 numbered 42, but that represented no sure gain. It has not been apparent, either, that punishment of lynchers has improved. In two conspicuous instances, from which much was hoped in the way of salutary examples, there has been complete failure. One was the attempt to punish the particularly infamous Lowman lynching at Aiken, S. C. The other was the collapse of the effort to punish floggers in Crenshaw county, Ala.

The marked decline in lynchings was coincident with the attempt to obtain a federal anti-lynching law. Undoubtedly that attempt had its effect in awakening the South to a new sense of shame with respect to lynching. There has been evident a more vigorous tone in the condemnation of lynchings by southern public officials and the southern press has gained confidence in attacking the evil. Undoubtedly the steady industrialization of the South, with its accompanying growth of the self-advertising spirit, has tended to discourage lynching. Finally the northward migration of the Negro has strongly suggested better treatment for him in the South.

It is too early yet to say that the decline of the last five years will continue to a still lower level for the next five years. It may be that recourse must still be had to a federal anti-lynching law. But the outlook is distinctly encouraging.

WASHINGTON, D. C.
Star
JAN 2 1928

LYNCHING IN 1927.

As the year draws to a close, it becomes necessary to make the usual grim analysis of lynch law in the United States. This horror has by no means vanished, but it is gratifying to report that it has at least abated.

During 1927 a total of 16 persons lost their lives at the hands of mobs, as against 30 in 1926. There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern States and 34 in Southern States. Armed forces frequently were employed to repel mobs bent upon taking the law into their own hands. It is estimated that this vigilance and devotion to duty on the part of the authorities saved 68 persons from lynching bees.

Thus the reduction in these crimes this year was almost 100 per cent as compared with the record for 1926. Nevertheless, the time has not yet come for boasting. The day when revulsion from these outrages upon law and decency shall become firmly implanted in every American mind will be a bright one indeed in the history of the United States.

Lynchings-1927
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan. -Dec.

2646

THE LYNCHING RECORD REVIEWED BY BANNER

NASHVILLE EVENING PAPER'S EDITOR SOUNDS WARNING

Warns The South That It Must Recognize All of The Laws To The States

"THE LYNCHING RECORD.

There is, of course, a certain amount of gratification over the fact that Tuskegee Institute's annual report on lynching shows a new low record of these brutal crimes for the United States, but the people of this section must still hang their heads in shame when the matter comes up for discussion. There were sixteen instances of mob violence in the country during the year just past and every one of them occurred in the South. Mississippi led the roll of dishonor with seven lynchings, Arkansas and three, Tennessee two, and Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas one each. All the victims of organized lawlessness were Negroes and there was not in evidence after any single one of these crimes the definite expression of outraged public sentiment that would have resulted in running down and bringing to justice those who were responsible for putting an indelible blot on the record of the states where lynch law took things into its hands. The foregoing words are not agreeable, but they are true, and only through looking such situations fair in the face may the South hope to redeem itself once and for all from the worst disgrace that now attaches to it.

Though the South may not feel otherwise than deeply shamed at the phase of the Tuskegee report that deals with lynchings actually perpetrated, it his ground for hope and congratulation in the large number of instances in which courageous officers of the law foiled the plans of mobs and saved their prisoners from gun, rope or fire. Lynchings were prevented on no less than forty-two occasions in 1927, and thirty-four of these instances took place in the South. It is a state of affairs that carries great promise of the final eradication of mob law in this section. It may also be said that the South owes no greater debt of gratitude to any of its citizens than to the men who defied mobs and prevented the utterly disgraceful and inexcusable crimes they would have committed.

If the states of the South desire a model or a pattern in the task of keeping their records clear of the blot of lynching, they need seek no further than North Carolina. Several years ago it was made apparent to those who entertained thoughts of taking the law into their own hands that they would do so at their own great risk. On more than one occasion the whole force of North Carolina's power was turned to the discovery, apprehension and punishment of the participants in a bit of mob violence. The offenders were hunted out, tried, convicted and sentenced. Furthermore, and fully as important, these lynchers were not relieved of their prison sentences by the action of a governor. It became an exceedingly perilous business to join a mob in North Carolina and there have been no mobs worth the mention since. In other words, the best people of North Carolina asserted themselves and demonstrated in practical fashion their horror and disgust and shame at lynching. The emotions felt by North Carolinians are the same as those of the vast majority of people in other states of the South, but they must be expressed in practical ways if they are to be properly effective as a curb to the terrible practices in question."—From Nashville Banner, Manday January 2, 1928.

Monroe, N. C.,
Enquirer
JAN 12 1928

LYNCHINGS IN U. S. A. DURING YEAR 1927

Principal of Tuskegee Institute Catalogs Mobs Taking Life Unlawfully.

Editor Enquirer:

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 35 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern States. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were—murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

Yours very truly,
R. R. MOTON, Principal.

TRIBUNE
Concord, N. C.
JAN 2 1928

LYNCHINGS SHOW DECREASE.

According to figures compiled by the Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, 16 persons were this being 14 less than the number 30 for 1926. The total also was one less than the number 17 in 1925, the same number 16 in 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 in 1923.

Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, the report says, six from jails and six from officers of the law on the outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

More important than the lynching total, however, is that phase of the report that deals with the number of attempts at lynching that were prevented. There were 42 instances during the year in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern states and 24 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, the report adds, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes, thus were saved from death at the hands of mobs if the figures are accurate.

All of the persons lynched were negroes and the offenses charged were murder 7; attempted murder 2; rape 2 attempted rape 3; improper conduct 1 charge not reported 1.

Here are the States in which the lynchings occurred and the number in each State: Arkansas 3; Kentucky 1; Louisiana 1; Mississippi 7; Missouri 1; Tennessee 2, and Texas 1.

We are gratified to see that the name of North Carolina is not among those listed as reporting lynchings during the year. We are in the class of those States where armed force had to be used to prevent lynchings and while it is to be regretted that the mob spirit was evident at all, it is gratifying to know that officers of the State were capable of handling the emergencies when they arose.

The fact that lynchings dropped off in all of the States is encouraging also, as is the fact that in many States in the South in addition to North Carolina officers were able to hold in check mobs which sought to take the law into their own hands.

AKRON, O. JOURNAL
Dec. 31, 1927

THE 1927 LYNCHING RECORD

Editor Beacon Jounal:

We are glad to send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee institute in the department of records and research. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, one less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings; eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negoes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses were: murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Akansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

R. R. MOTON,
Principal, Tuskogee Normal and Industrial Institute,
Tuskogee, Ala.

AN IMPROVED LYNCHING RECORD

Dr. Robert R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Institute, sends the press the annual report on lynchings as compiled by the Department of Records and Research at Tuskegee.

Naturally in examining this report we hastened to see what the cold figures showed for Alabama. Happily, and not at all to our surpdise, it is found that Alabama's record for the last 12 months is again clean. We had no lynching in this State in 1927. We have had none since 1925, we believe. And what is equally gratifying is that there were no lynchings in either of the Carolinas, nor in Georgia, nor in Virginia—all Southern States.

The record for the country is very much better than for 1926, though no better than for 1925.

Advertiser

It appears from the Tuskegee compilation that there weer 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 frpm officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

1-3-28

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern States and 34 in Southern States. "In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken." In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs."

Montgomery, Ala.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were—murder 7, attempted murder 2, rape 4, attempted rape 3, improper conduct 1, charge not reported 1.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas 3, Kentucky 1, Louisiana 1, Mississippi 7, Missouri 7, Tennessee 2, Texas 1.

Southern newspaper editors are puzzled by the fact that the statistics of Tuskegee Institute and of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People are not in agreement. Tuskegee places the number of lynchings at 16 the National Association at 21. The Macon Telegraph and The Greensboro Daily News are curious to know the explanation of the discrepancy. For itself, The Advertiser prefers to accept Tuskegee's statistics, not because they are more favorable, but because the National Association is a propaganda society and as such is more militant than Tuskegee. Tuskegee's Department of Research seeks only information, the National Association is eager also to draw conclusions and make a point. We have always found the Tuskegee records to be reliable.

Special interest attaches to Georgia's clean record because it is unprecedented. The Georgia newspapers are elated over the fine showing of their State. The Columbus Enquirer-Sun, The Macon Telegraph and The Atlanta Constitution and others unite in celebrating.

Says The Telegraph:

> No matter what the difference is, neither agency was able to include Georgia among those States whose people had given themselves over to mob violence. Statistics do not run as far back as the days of General Oglethorpe, but it is perhaps true that 1927 was the first year since the early days of the Georgia colony when there was no mob violence. The achievement is all the more significant when it is considered that during the year there was at least one case that would have certainly, in other days, provoked a lynching. That was the case in Jasper County when a negro assaulted a white woman. Not only were the few hoodlums who threatened violence promptly warned that to attempt it would mean trouble, but the feeling that emerged from that crime was one of friendliness for the responsible negroes of the community and the desire to protect them from that blind racial ill-feeling that attends such crimes and lynchings.

The Constitution is happy to report that "Georgia has at last been eliminated from the 'black list,' and it is hoped it has attained a position in this manner which it will always maintain."

The Houston Post-Dispatch thinks that the steady improvement in the lynching situation makes it unlikely that Congress will enact a Federal anti-lynching law. The Post-Dispatch in its editorial also pays special tribute to those officers of the law in the South who have done so much to check the mob spirit.

Officers of the law are said to have saved the lives of 68 persons, 15 of them white, in 1927. Says The Post-Dispatch:

> Suppose these sixty-five who were saved had been added to the sixteen who were done to death. That would have been eighty people slain by maniacal mobs in one year. What a ghastly and humiliating record that would have been for the Nation that poses as the most enlightened in the world. Could the rest of the world have been blamed had it pointed the finger of scorn at us?

The Greensboro Daily News looks at lynching statistics by ten-year periods, using Tuskegee records as authority. The number of lynchings in the last ten years is found to be as follows:

1927—16	1922—57
1926—30	1921—64
1925—17	1920—61
1924—16	1919—83
1923—33	1918—64

Commenting, The Daily News says that "back of 1918 the number increases irregularly to 100 in 1908, to 115 in 1900, to 200 in 1893. Over the long period from 1882 to the present the curve is downward. Within the ten-year period above it is obviously and sharply downward. Nineteen twenty-six is the exception, with its total of 30, partly explained by eight lynchings in Florida and seven in Texas, both of which are far above normal for these States. The high figure in Florida is generally attributed to unsettled conditions in the boom days, and the high figure in Texas is probably due to oil booms and the confusion they always cause. But the ten-year period shows the trend. It is unquestionably downward."

Further:

> The past year shows Mississippi with the worst record. That is normal. Seven lynchings there are more than twice as many as in any other State. Arkansas is credited with three, Tennessee with two, and Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas, with one each. That means that of the distinctly Southern States Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama and Oklahoma had none. Of these last North Carolina has had none since 1921, Oklahoma none since 1923 and Alabama none since 1925.

Over a ten-year period, 1918-1927, inclusive, the Southern States stand in this order, The Daily News finds:

Georgia, 81; Mississippi, 75; Texas, 63; Florida, 49; Arkansas, 35; Louisiana, 27; Alabama, 23; North Carolina and South Carolina, 13 each; Tennessee, 12; Kentucky, Oklahoma and Virginia, six each.

Or to extend the summary over the long period back to 1882, the number of lynchings in each Southern State is as follows:

Mississippi, 522; Georgia, 503; Texas, 469; Louisiana, 376; Alabama, 340; Arkansas, 291; Florida, 256; Tennessee, 241; Kentucky, 212; South Carolina, 163; Oklahoma, 161; Virginia, 102; North Carolina, 91.

The North Carolina newspaper concludes by observing that "in essential respects the long period, the ten-year period and the last year's record are in agreement. But it is worth noting that some of the Far South States, notably Alabama and Georgia, have improved notably. In Georgia, for instance, the average number murdered by mobs in the five-year period of 1918-1922 was 14. But in the succeeding five-year period, 1923-1927, the average per year was two. Nobody with any knowledge of the facts holds that improvement like that is merely chance. It is caused in Georgia, as it has been caused in other States, by those who were determined to decrease mob murders."

DALY CITY, CAL. RECORD
JANUARY 20, 1928

FEWER LYNCHINGS

1763

According to the annual report of the Tuskegee Institute, there were only sixteen persons lynched in the United States during 1927. While this is the lowest number recorded in any year since records have been kept, except in 1924, which showed the same number, it is sixteen too many.

Still, when compared with the terrible record of thirty-five years ago, this report should give encouragement to all who are striving to remove the blot of lynch law from American civilization. To show briefly how lynching has decreased, a few figures will be of interest.

Lynching reached its most frightful height in 1892, when 255 persons were murdered by mobs. Of this number 100 were white and 155 colored. There were 115 lynched in

1900, 74 in 1910, 61 in 1920, 64 in 1921, 17 in 1925, 30 in 1926 and 16 in 1927.

During 1927 officers of the law protected forty-two persons from mobs and in numerous other cases prisoners were removed to other jails as a precautionary measure. The record of law officers in this respect has shown much improvement in recent years. It is chiefly to the courage and determination of sheriffs and officers that the lessening of the lynching evil is due.

Lynchings- 1927
Reports on Sent Press.

Jan. — Dec.

2647

Lebanon, Ky., Enterprise

JAN 13 1928

Lynchings In 1927.

R. R. Morton, principal of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, Alabama, furnishes the following figures:

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern States. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 whites and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were—murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the murder in each State are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 7; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

SPRINGFIELD, O., SUN
Jan. 3, 1928

LYNCHING RECORD

Editor, The Sun:

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R. R. MOTON.
Principal, Tuskegee Institute.

Ridgefield (Wn.) Reflector
January 19, 1928

FEWER LYNCHINGS

According to the annual report of the Tuskegee Institute, there were only 16 persons lynched in the United States during 1927. While this is the lowest number recorded in any year since records have been kept, except 1924 which showed the same number, it is 16 too many.

Still, when compared with the terrible record of 35 years ago, this report should give encouragement to all who are striving to remove the blot of lynch law from American civilization. To show briefly how lynching has decreased, a few figures will be of interest.

Lynching reached its most frightful height in 1892, when 255 persons were murdered by mobs. Of this number 100 were white and 155 colored. There were 115 lynched in 1900, 74 in 1910, 61 in 1920, 64 in 1921, 57 in 1922, 33 in 1923, 16 in 1924, 17 in 1925, 30 in 1926 and 16 in 1927.

During 1927 officers of the law protected 42 persons from mobs and in numerous other cases prisoners were removed to other jails as a precautionary measure. The record of law officers in this respect has shown much improvement in recent years. It is chiefly to the courage and determination of sheriffs and other officers that the lessening of the lynching evil is due.

JEROME, ARIZ., NEWS—Sun
JANUARY 17, 1928

FEWER LYNCHINGS

1946

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Florence, Ala.,
JAN 13 1928
Herald

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FT. STOCKTON TEX. PIONEER
JANUARY 13, 1928

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FERNDALE, CALIF.
ENTERPRISE
JANUARY 20, 1928

1 Attitude, Comments on.

1463

FEWER LYNCHINGS

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Lynchings-1927
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan. - Dec.

2648

Lynching Record, 1927, Shows Decrease; None Occurred in Georgia or Alabama

WE DID COME THROUGH
(From Macon Telegraph.)

Figures on lynching issued by the National Asociation for the Advancement of Colored People do not jibe with those that come from Tuskegee Institute. The association says that 21 persons were mob victims during 1927, while Tuskegee gives the number as 16. It may be that the two agencies arrived at their totals upon different bases, that Tuskegee did not regard as lynchings five crimes of violence in which persons lost their lives.

No matter what the difference is, neither agency was able to include Georgia among those states whose peoples had given themselves over to mob violence. Statistics do not run as far back as the days of General Oglethorpe, but it is perhaps true that 1927 was the first year since the early days of the Georgia colony when there was no mob violence. The achievement is all the more significant when it is considered that during the year there was at least one case that would have certainly, in other days, provoked a lynching. That was the case in Jasper county when a Negro assaulted a white woman. Not only were the few hoodlums who threatened violence promptly warned that to attempt it would mean trouble, but the feeling that emerged from that crime was one of friendliness for the responsible Negros of the community and the desire to protect them from that blind racial ill-feeling that attends such crimes and lynchings.

Georgians may well have pride in the fact that there were no lynchings in their state. Aside from the fact that the achievement places us with those states that have become civilized, at least to that extent, it indicates that we have passed from under the brutalizing and degrading influences of irresponsible mobs. Because sentiment has switched so perceptibly, it is increasingly harder for a mob to get in its work. The attitude of responsible citizens is no longer one of passivity when a mob threatens; on any number of occasions recently, good citizens have offered their services to sheriffs who were doing their duty in protecting their prisoners. The sheriff who wants to preserve the life of his prisoner until the courts order it taken, always can do it by the exercise of force. It is growing easier for him to do it, because the public is supporting him.

Recently the editor of the *Manufacturers' Record* attempted to give a ingenious explanation, and perhaps defense, of lynching, by saying that mobs lynched because they wanted to spare white women victims the humiliation of going into court and subjecting themselves to scrutiny and to brutal examinations by defense attorneys. That explanation betrays an ignorance of mobs and an ignorance of court procedure in such cases. *No mob thinks of such niceties as court trials in the heat of aroused passion; reasoning has no place with hoodlums.* What makes them kill is the blood lust, the primeval passions rising and sweeping away everything else, government, orderly processes and everything else. Anyone who knows court procedure in aggravated assault cases knows, also, that no attorney would dare subject a victim to brutal cross examination. As a matter of fact, few victims ever go into a court room. Their evidence is taken either in private or by interrogatories. Mr. Edmonds was merely giving lynchers a basis of reasoning for doing that in which there is no reason, only passion.

GEORGIA OFF THE "BLACK LIST"
(From Atlanta Constitution.)

The department of records and research of Tuskegee institute has completed its annual survey as to lynchings in the United States during 1927. The record is most commendable in showing a steady decrease, and is illustrating the vigilance of officers in preventing mob violence. It is particularly gratifying to Georgia, for not one lynching occurred in this state from January 1, 1927, to this new year day—a record that it was hoped would be reached in 1926, but which was not made due to a lynching in the last half of the year.

At any rate while several of the other southern states have made unenviable record, especially Mississippi, whose lead in 1927 is most deplorable and regrettable, Georgia has at last been eliminated from the "black list", and it is hoped it has attained a position in this manner which it will always maintain.

In the entire country there were only 16 lynchings in 1927, which is 14 less than the number for 1926. Twelve of the victims were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of the jails.

The survey shows that there were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynching. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed, or the guards augmented, or other precautions taken. In 18 other cases armed forces were used to repel the mobs.

The states in which lynchings occurred, and the number in each state, are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

It is noticeable that, along with Georgia, there were no 1927 lynchings in either of the Carolinas or in Florida or Alabama. That is, the south Atlantic seaboard states, or the southeast proper, made a record in 1927 so commendable in this respect that it is deserving of comment and general national knowledge. It illustrates that in this great section of the country there is developing a stronger feeling for the supremacy of law and order, and for the integrity of constituted authority. The press crusades against floggings, and other evidences of mob violence, and the courage of enforcement and court officials, along with a stronger public sentiment against mob violence, have been contributing factors towards this improved situation.

At this time leaders of public affairs in Mississippi are endeavoring to remedy the disgraceful mob-violence situation in that state, and it is hoped with success ahead of them.

There is no place for the mob any more than for the anarchist or the communist who conspires to tear down organized and legalized government. It is a hopeful sign that the lynching situation in the southeast was greatly improved in the year that has just closed.

FACTS SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES
(From Greensboro Daily News.)

The old theory that the mobs of the south murder because the south is determined to keep its women from attacks by men ought by now to have been buried as deep as the bodies of the victims of mobs. But for all that has been done to the theory it shows an amazing vitality. It is still cited often as the reason why lynchings are more popular below the Mason and Dixon line than elsewhere. Behind this pretense of protecting womanhood, holding honor inviolate and preserving the home is the most reasonable defense that believers in mob rule can cite. They still do it, in the face of the fact that every study of lynchings shows the most frequent crime is not that against women.

The figures for 1927, announced by Tuskegee institute, tell the story again. Of the 16 lynchings the department of records and research of the institute has listed one is described as due to an unknown cause. Another is listed as caused by "improper conduct", which presumably might be a first step in a contemplated attack against a woman, although that is by no means sure. Three are attributed to attempted criminal assault, and two to criminal assault. Seven were due to murder and two more to attempted murder.

If the two instances of criminal assault, and three of attempted criminal assault and the one instance of "improper conduct" are combined, there are six lynchings under this classification. But beside that must be placed the nine lynchings attributed to murder and attempted murder and a tenth to an unknown cause.

There is nothing surprising in that report. Year after year Tuskegee has made reports closely similar to it. Every study of the actual events which infuriate men to mob action reveals virtually the same facts. Over the whole period during which records have been kept on lynchings the facts are the same. Murder always leads. Attacks on women are present, but always in the minority. The past year shows a slightly higher ratio than usual, but even so the full record shows that nearly 80 per cent. of the lynchings are due to causes other than criminal assault.

These facts speak for themselves. *They reduce to absurdity the plea that the south's women can be protected only by mob murder after an attack.* If the records showed only those lynchings caused by this crime, the records would show only about one-fifth as many lynchings.

OUR LYNCHING RECORD
(From Chattanooga Times.)

Sixteen persons, all negroes, were lynched in this country last year, according to statistics compiled by the department of records and research, of Tuskegee institute. The states in which the crimes were committed and the number listed in each were as follows; Mississippi, 7; Arkansas, 3; Tennessee, 2; Kentucky, 1; Louiiana, 1; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1. The offenses with which the victims were charged included murder, assault, attempted assault and improper conduct. Death was inflicted on some by shooting, and on others by hanging, while four were burned alive.

This record, which is a national disgrace and an international scandal, shows that, for all our vaunted superiority in the matter of self-government, there are in the United States a considerable number of men who are far from being qualified for the responsibilities of self-government — men who, under the provocation of crime aggravated by race prejudice, succumb to the spirit of the mob and proceed to override the authority of the state and deprive fellow-beings of their lives, sometimes in the most barbarous manner.

There is, however, reason to believe that the number of such individuals is steadily growing smaller. The sixteen lynchings in 1927 represented considerable improvement over 1926, when there were 30. The record was lower than that of 1925, with 17 deaths at the hands of mobs, and equaled that of 1924, the previous low year. It was a tremendous improvement over 1917, with its 38 lynchings; a still greater one over 1908, with its 100 victims of mob violence. Going back still further, it is seen that the country has indeed traveled a long way on the road to a lynchless era, for in 1901 there were 135 lynchings, in 1893, 200, and in 1892, 255.

This improvement has come about through the growth of public sentiment against mob violence and through greater effort on the part of some officers of the law to keep prisoners from falling into the hands of mobs. Last year, for instance, forty-two lynchings were prevented by officers who had the intelligence to outwit lawless gangs or the courage to withstand them. Nevertheless, six of the sixteen individuals lynched last year were taken from jails and six others from officers outside jails, and responsibility for the lynching of these twelve persons undoubtedly rests in some measure, if not wholly in some instances, upon the officers who quailed, forgot their sworn duty, and gave way in the presence of the mobs demanding their charges.

In its efforts to stamp out mob executions, the country has need of more sheriffs, deputies and jailers, who have the courage and the ability to remain in control of the situation when the mob spirit is running riot. It also has need of some serious effort on the part of law-enforcement authorities to bring lynchers into court and punish them for their crimes against their victims and their states. And few states have greater need for these things than Tennessee, for it was disgraced by two mob executions in 1927, and not a single lyncher was so much as indicted.

This Clipping From
Marshville, N.C.
Home
JAN 18 1928

LYNCHINGS IN U. S. A. DURING YEAR 1927

Principal of Tuskegee Institute Catalogs Mobs Taking Life Unlawfully.

Editor Home:

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 35 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern States. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were—murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 3; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

Yours very truly,
R. R. MOTON, Principal.

UPPER SANDUSKY [illegible]
Dec. 31, 1927

Sixteen Persons Lynched, Records Show For Year

Sixteen persons were lynched in the United States in 1927. This is 14 less than the unusually large number of 1926 when the record stood at 30. It is one less than for 1925 and the same number as in 1924, according to the report just made public by the Researcs department of Tuskegee Institute.

One of the good things in the report is that 42 instances of attempted lynchings were prevented by officers of the law standing firm, eight in Northern states, 34 in Southern states.

In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were—murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

Manchester, Tenn., Times

JAN 20 1928

Lynching Record For Year 1927

The following concerning lynchings for the past year is compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research.

There were 16 person lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926 1 less than the number 1 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923.

12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the prisoners were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, 3 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guerds augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were—murder 7; attempted murder, 2; rape 2 attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynching occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

ENTERPRISE
Shoshone Wyo
JAN 28 1928

FEWER LYNCHINGS LAST YEAR According to the annual report of the Tuskegee Institute, there were only 16 persons lynched in the United States during 1927. While this is the lowest number recorded in any year since records have been kept, except 1924 which showed the same number, it is 16 too many.

Still, when compared with the terrible record of 35 years ago, this report should give encouragement to all who are striving to remove the blot of lynch law from American civilization To show briefly how lynching has decreased, a few figures will be of interest.

Lynching reached its most frightful height in 1892, when 255 persons were murdered by mobs. Of this number 100 were white and 155 colored. There were 115 lynched in 1900, 74, in 1910, 61 in 1920, 64 in 1921, 57 in 1922, 33 in 1923, 16 in 1924, 17 in 1925, 30 in 1926 and 16 in 1927.

During 1927 officers of the law protected 42 persons from mobs and in numerous other cases prisoners were removed to other jails as a precautionary measure. The record of law officers in this respect has shown much improvement in recent years It is chiefly to the courage and determination of sheriffs and other officers that the lessening of the lynching evil is due.

Chesterfield, S. C. Advertiser

JAN 12 1928

16 NEGROES LYNCHED DURING PAST YEAR

Tuskegee, Ala., Jan. 2.—Sixteen persons, all negroes, were lynched during 1927, it was announced today by Tuskegee institute on the basis of records compiled by its department of research and records. This compared with 30 in the previous year, 17 in 1925, 16 in 1624 and 33 in 1923.

Four of the victims were burned to death, the report said, and the bodies of two were burned after they had been put to death. Offenses with which they were charged included murder, assault, attempted assault and improper conduct.

The report said that of those lynched, six were taken from jails and six seized from officers of the law outside jails. It added that there were 42 instances in which officers prevented lynchings, 34 in Southern states and eight in Northern states.

There were no lynchings in South Carolina during 1927, although comparative figures for the preceeding year were not given.

Lawrenceburg, Tenn., News

JAN 18 1928

Fewer Lynchings

According to the annual report of the Tuskegee Institute, there were only 16 persons lynched in the United States during 1927. While this is the lowest number recorded in any year since records have been kept, except 1924 which showed the same number, it is 16 too many.

Still, when compared with the terrible record of 35 years ago, this report should give encouragement to all who are striving to remove the blot of lynch law from American civilization. To show briefly how lynching has decreased, a few figures will be of interest.

Lynching reached its most frightful height in 1892, when 255 persons were murdered by mobs. Of this number 100 were white and 155 colored. There were 115 lynched in 1900, 74 in 1910, 61 in 1920, 64 in 1921, 57 in 1922, 33 in 1923, 16 in 1924, 17 in 1925, 30 in 1926 and 16 in 1927.

During 1927 officers of the law protected 42 persons from mobs and in numerous other cases prisoners were removed to other jails as a precautionary measure. The record of law officers in this respect has shown much improvement in recent years. It is chiefly to the courage and determination of sheriffs and other officers that the lessening of lynching evil is due.

Lanett Ala. Times

JAN 11 1928

Sixteen Persons Were Lynched in 1927

There were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 for 1924 and 17 less than the number 23 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be-lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 7; attempted murder 2; rape 2; attempted rape 3; improper conduct 11; charge not reported 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas 3; Kentucky 1; Louisiona 1; Mississippi 7; Missouri 1; Tennessee 2; Texas 1.

Lynchings-1927
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan.-Dec.

2649

RUSHVILLE, ILL. TIMES
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18, 1928.

FEWER LYNCHINGS IN 1927

According to the annual report of the Tuskegee Institute, there were only sixteen persons lynched in the United States during 1927. While this is the lowest number recorded in any year since records have been kept, except 1924, which showed the same number, it is sixteen too many.

Still, when compared with the terrible record of thirty-five years ago, this report should give encouragement to all who are striving to remove the blot of lynch law from American civilization. To show briefly how lynching has decreased, a few figures will be of interest.

Lynching reached its most frightful height in 1822, when 255 persons were murdered by mobs. Of this number 100 were white and 155 colored. There were 115 lynched in 1900, 74 in 1910, 61 in 1920, 64 in 1921, 57 in 1922, 33 in 1923, 16 in 1924, 17 in 1925, 30 in 1926 and 16 in 1927.

During 1927 officers of the law protected forty-two persons from mobs and in numerous other cases prisoners were removed to other jails as a precautionary measure. The record of law officers in this respect has shown much improvement in recent years. It is chiefly to the courage and determination of sheriffs and other officers that the lessening of the lynching evil is due.

JACKSON MO POST
JANUARY 12, 1928

Fewer Lynchings.

According to the annual report of the Tuskegee Institute there were only sixteen lynched in the United States during 1927. While this is the lowest number recorded in any year since records have been kept, except 1924 which showed the same number, it is 16 too many.

Still, when compared with the terrible record of 35 years ago, this report should give encouragement to all who are striving to remove the blot of lynch law from American civilization. To show briefly how lynching has decreased a few figures will be of interest.

Lynching reached its most frightful height in 1892, when 255 persons were murdered by mobs. Of this number 100 white and 155 colored. There were 115 lynched in 1900, 74 in 1910, 61 in 1920, 64 in 1921, 57 in 1922, 33 in 1923, 16 in 1924, 17 in 1925, 30 in 1926 and 16 in

During 1927 officers of the law protected 42 persons from mobs and in numerous other cases prisoners were removed to other jails as a precautionary measure. The record of law officers in this respect has shown much improvement in recent years. It is chiefly to the determination of sheriffs and other officers that the lessening of the lynching evil is due.

PITTSBURG KANS. NEWS (wk)
JANUARY 13, 1928

Fewer Lynchings

According to the annual report of the Tuskegee Institute, there were only 16 persons lynched in the United States during 1927. While this is the lowest number recorded in any year since records have been kept, except 1924, which showed the same number, it is 16 too many.

Still, when compared with the terrible record of 35 years ago, this report should give encouragement to all who are striving to remove the blot of lynch law from American civilization. To show briefly how lynching has decreased, a few figures will be of interest.

Lynching reached its most frightful height in 1892, when 255 persons were murdered by mobs. Of this number 100 were white and 155 colored. There were 115 lynched in 1900, 74 in 1910, 61 in 1920, 64 in 1921, 57 in 1922, 33 in 1923, 16 in 1924, 17 in 1925, 30 in 1926 and 16 in 1927.

During 1927 officers of the law protected 42 persons from mobs and in numerous other cases prisoners were removed to other jails as a precautionary measure. The record of law officers in this respect has shown much improvement in recent years. It is chiefly to the courage and determination of sheriffs and other officers that the lessening of the lynching evil is due.

HOUSTON TEX. CHRONICLE
JANUARY 19, 1928

Lynchings Decrease In Year, Report Says Tuskegee

By Associated Press.

Atlanta, Ga., Jan. 19. — While ing better race relations in 1927, Will W. Alexander, director of ...mission on Inter-Racial Co-operation, in his annual report today blamed the escape of lynchers and ...for ...ter ills.

Newspapers, sheriffs and citizens co-operated to lessen lynching in 1927, Doctor Alexander declared, but "experience seems to indicate that in most American communities the members of lynch ...g and flogging bands need have ...le or no fear of prosecution."

He noted encouraging in ...ases in funds for negro schools ... the South.

COLUMBUS (GEORGIA) SUN
January 7, 1928

GEORGIA OFF THE "BLACK LIST"

(From a Atlanta Constitution.)

The department of records and research of Tuskegee institute has completed its annual survey as to lynchings in the United States during 1927. The record is most commendable in showing a steady decrease, and is illustrating the vigilance of officers in preventing mob violence. It is particularly gratifying to Georgia, for not one lynching occurred in this state from January 1, 1927, to this new year day—a record that it was hoped would be reached in 1926, but which was not made due to a lynching in the last half of the year.

At any rate while several of the other southern states have made unenviable record, especially Mississippi, whose lead in 1927 is most deplorable and regrettable, Georgia has at last been eliminated from the "black list", and it is hoped it has attained a position in this manner which it will always maintain.

In the entire country there were only 16 lynchings in 1927, which is 14 less than the number for 1926. Twelve of the victims were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of the jails.

The survey shows that there were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynching. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed, or the guards augmented, or other precautions taken. In 18 other cases armed forces were used to repel the mobs.

The states in which lynchings occurred, and the number in each state, are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas 1.

PALM BEACH (FLA) INDEPENDENT
January 20. 1928

THE LYNCHING RECORD

(Tampa Times)

The report of Robert R. Morton, president of the Tuskegee institute—the Booker Washington school—on the number of lynchings in 1927 is heartening to those who hold that mob justice is one of the most harmful things there can be. It shows the total number of lynchings for the year as 16, against 30 in 1926; 17 in 1925; 16 in 1924 and 33 in 1923.

Victims of 12 of the 1927 lynchings were taken from the hands of the law—six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the mob's prey were burned to death. Two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

Offenses charged against those lynched were—murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1. All those lynched were negros.

The states contributing to this record and the number of lynchings in each are: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

While these figures offer no encouragement that lynching is appreciably disappearing from the minds of men, since the number of lynchings for the year just ended is identical with that for 1924, though close to 50 per cent less than for 1926, that the officials are showing much more tendency toward preventing lynchings is a hopeful sign. Such is clearly shown to be the case by the Morton report. It reveals that there were in 1927 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented, or other precautions were taken. In 18 other instances armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negros, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Florida is to be congratulated upon the fact that she is this time omitted from the list of states in which lynchings occurred. Last year's report was different. This state then headed the list of lynchings, with eight of them having been staged here. She was followed by Texas, with 7; Mississippi, 4; South Carolina, 3; Arkansas, 2; Georgia, Kentucky, New Mexico, Tennessee and Virginia, with 1 each.

There is no doubt that the changed condition here is due in large part to the more certain and prompt manner in which the law has functioned. The improvement in this respect has been marked, though there still are many unseemly delays in the carrying out of the sentences of the courts. It is to be hoped that there will be continued improvement here. If there is it can be assumed that lynching will come to be an unknown occurrence in Florida.

PITTSBURG KS. NEWS
JANUARY 13, 1928

Fewer Lynchings

According to the annual report of the Tuskegee Institute, there were only 16 persons lynched in the United States during 1927. While this is the lowest number recorded in any year since records have been kept, except 1924, which showed the same number, it is 16 too many.

Still, when compared with the terrible record of 35 years ago, this report should give encouragement to all who are striving to remove the blot of lynch law from American civilization. To show briefly how lynching has decreased, a few figures will be of interest.

Lynching reached its most frightful height in 1892, when 25... sons were murdered by mobs. Of this number 100 were white and 155 colored. There were 115 lynched in 1900, 74 in 1910, 61 in 1920, 64 in 1921, 57 in 1922, 33 in 1923, 16 in 1924, 17 in 1925, 30 in 1926 and 16 in 1927.

During 1927 officers of the law protected 42 persons from mobs and in numerous other cases prisoners were removed to other jails as a precautionary measure. The record of law officers in this respect has shown much improvement in recent years. It is chiefly to the courage and determination of sheriffs and other officers that the lessening of the lynching evil is due.

CROCKETT, TEX., TIMES
JANUARY 12 1928

SIXTEEN NEGROES WERE LYNCHED DURING 1927

Tuskegee, Ala., Dec. 31.—Sixteen persons, all negroes, were lynched during 1927, it was announced today by Tuskegee Institute on the basis of records compiled by its department of records and research. This compared with thirty in the previous year, seventeen in 1925, sixteen in 1924 and thirty-three in 1923.

The states is which lynchings occurred and the number each were listed as follows:

Mississippi, 7; Arkansas, 3; Tennessee, 2; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1. Four of the victims were burned to death, the report said, and the bodies of two were burned after they had been put to death.

New Haven, Conn.

1-5-28

LYNCHING FALLS OFF

There were 16 lynchings in the South in 1927—so reports Tuskegee Institute.

This compares with 30 for 1926; 17 for 1925; 16 for 1924, and 33 for 1923. Thus it is seen that the marked improvement that began in 1923 has been continued throughout another year. The average number of lynchings for the last five years has been 22; for the preceding five year period it was 66.

Hope is general that mob law will never again disgrace this country, but it is a hope that is not full of bright prospects.

However conditions in the South are improving and the sentiment gainst lynching is becoming more nd more pronounced.

Statute law is not to be superceded by mob law—that's certain.

The Mirror

By C. F. RICHARDSON

If the readers of this column, or of The Informer, observe several typographical errors in this issue, or if they discover lines transferred out of their rightful position in the reading matter, or, if they note any errors in some of the ads, they will please not charge same to our proofreader or makeup man; for our chief linotype operator is celebrating his entry into the paternal role, and has not been himself since the stork visited his home last Saturday morning.

We said all of that to say this: W. H. Mitchell, our linotype operator who usually "sets" this column, the editorials and ad "guts," is now a father.

Yes, W. H., Jr., has made his earthly advent and "Daddy" Mitchell is all smiles and passing out the smokes.

Herkimer Evening News
JANUARY 12, 1928

FEWER LYNCHINGS

According to the annual report of the Tuskegee Institute, there were only 16 persons lynched in the United States during 1927. While this is the lowest number recorded in any year since records have been kept, except 1924 which showed the same number, it is 16 too many.

Still, when compared with the terrible record of 35 years ago, this report should give encouragement to all who are striving to remove the blot of lynch law from American civilization. To show briefly how lynching has decreased, a few figures will be of interest.

Lynching reached its most frightful height in 1892, when 255 persons were murdered by mobs. Of this number 100 were white and 155 colored. There 115 lynched in 1900, 74 in 1910, 61 in 1920, 64 in 1921, 57 in 1922, 33 in 1923, 16 in 1924, 17 in 1925, 30 in 1926 and 16 in 1927.

During 1927 officers of the law protected 42 persons from mobs and in numerous other cases prisoners were removed to other jails as a precautionary measure. The record of law officers in this respect has shown much improvement in recent years. It is chiefly to the courage and determination of sheriffs and other officers that the lessening of the lynching evil is due.

HARRODSBURG, KY., HERALD
JANUARY 6, 1928

Lynchings

The principal of Tuskegee Institute writes as follows:

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 7 less than the number 23 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in Northern States and 34 in Southern States. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 19 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would -be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes The offenses charged were—murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

Bishop Dallas News
JANUARY 20, 1928

FEWER LYNCHINGS.

According to the annual report of the Tuskegee Institute, there were only 16 persons lynched in the United States during 1927. While this is the lowest number recorded in any year since records have been kept, except 1924 which showed the same number, it is 16 too many.

Still, when compared with the terrible record of 35 years ago, this report should give encouragement to all who are striving to remove the blot of lynch law from American civilization. To show briefly how lynching has decreased, a few figures will be of interest.

Lynching reached its most frightful height in 1892, when 255 perrsons were murdered by mobs. Of this number 100 were white and 155 colored. There were 115 lynched in 1900, 74 in 1910, 61 in 1920, 64 in 1921, 57 in 1922, 33 in 1923, 16 in 1924, 17 in 1925, 30 in 1926 and 16 in 1927.

During 1927 officers of the law protected 42 persons from mobs and in numerous other cases prisoners were removed to other jails as a precautionary measure. The record of law officers in this respect has shown much improvement in recent years. It is chiefly to the courage and deterrmination of sheriffs and other officers that the lessening of the lynching evil evil is due.

ASHEVILLE (NC) TIMES
January 2, 1928

The 1927 Lynching Record

TUSKEGEE NORMAL AND INDUSTRIAL INSTITUTE makes the following summary of the country's record in lynchings for 1927:

There were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 White and 53 Negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Wherever there are resolute and alert officers of the law, there the chances against the Federal laws of the Ameri- lynching are reduced far toward zero. Wherever it is known that this ever there are wide rural spaces unpoliced, the opportunities for mobs are increased.

In addition to prayer, the country needs more lynch- for murder than for any other crime, more stern sheriffs and other executors of the law and, especially in the South, more police protection for the countryside.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were—murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

On the basis of the comparisons here made with the records of the years since 1922 in unofficial killings by mobs, there is some ground for encouragement to those who long to see lawful justice triumph over mob violence. Even

Lynchings-1927
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan. -Dec.

2650

UNION
SPRINGFIELD, MASS.
DEC 22 1927

THE CRIME OF LYNCHING

Its Defense by Georgia Editor Denounced by Negro Official.

To the Editor of The Union.

Sir: An editorial published by a Bainbridge (Ga.) editor, and reproduced and commented upon in a number of newspapers, deserves public consideration at this time. This editor, E. H. Griffin, of The Bainbridge Post-Searchlight, still defends the barbarous crime of lynching. His utterance has received well-merited rebuke from such outstanding newspapers as The Columbus (Ga.) Sun and The Dotham (Ala.) Eagle. Mr. Griffin takes the ground that lynching is the only meet punishment for the abhorrent crime of rape. Does Editor Griffin feel, when a mob avenges the crime of rape by lynching or, as is frequently done, by burning a human being at the stake while women and children look on, that civilization is being saved?

But Editor Griffin's statements, implying that the crime of lynching always avenges the crime of rape, that "law or no law, justice or no justice, tolerance or no tolerance, when a brute rapes a woman the hemp rope is just as certain as sin," merit further comment.

The facts about lynching have been stated before, and to the entire country. There have been 92 women lynched in the United States during the last 40 years.

Out of the upwards of 4000 recorded victims of lynching mobs in this country, less than one in five has even been accused of the crime of rape; and it should be borne in mind in this connection that accusation and execution by a mob in the often whisky-sodden atmosphere of brutal passion is not calculated to establish guilt or innocence, a function for which the entire structure of law and the courts is designed.

The crime of lynching shames the entire country before the civilized world. It can hardly be adduced as proof of the superior culture of the race in whose hands government and the courts rest, when they deliberately trample their own institutions of law and orderly processes in the mire, often making a holiday scene of an act of inhumanity and savagery.

Is it not time that apologists for lynching be recognized for precisely what they are, namely advocates of the lawlessness against which all decent United States citizens of whatever race, color or section must stand united in their common citizenship and faith in America?

JAMES W. JOHNSON.
Secretary National Association for the Advancement of Colored People
New York, Dec. 21, 1927.

NEW YORK TIMES
JAN 2 1928

SIXTEEN LYNCHINGS IN 1927

Total Was Fourteen Less Than in 1926—Occurred in Seven States.

Special to The New York Times.

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 1.—Sixteen persons were lynched in the United States in 1927, according to the Departments of Records and Research of Tuskegee Institute. This was fourteen less than the number for 1926, one less than the number for 1925, the same number as for 1924 and seventeen less than the number for 1923.

Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death and two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were forty-two instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern States and thirty-four in Southern States. In twenty-four of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In eighteen other instances armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons—fifteen white and fifty-three negroes—were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, seven; attempted murder, two; rape, two; attempted rape, three; improper conduct, one; charge not reported, one.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas, three; Kentucky, one; Louisiana, one; Mississippi, seven; Missouri, one; Tennessee, two; Texas, one.

BANNER
NASHVILLE, TENN.
DEC 28 1927

PREVENTING LYNCHING.

When it became apparent that feeling was running dangerously high at Wolfpit, Ky., following the killing of a white miner by a Negro, Gov. Flem D. Sampson immediately dispatched troops to the scene to ward off the possibility of a lynching in case the alleged murderer should be captured by the hundreds of men who were combing the countryside for him. It was precisely the course of action that should have been instituted. Lynching is an inexcusably barbarous performance and one that puts an ineradicable blot on the record of the community that allows it to take place. The circumstances are always such that an ounce of prevention is worth many pounds of cure. It is obligatory to hunt out and punish those who perpetrate a lynching, but it is a thousand times better to keep it from taking place.

It is easy to understand that no state executive likes to advertise to the world at large that the people of any portion of the community under his guidance have become so lost to the better instincts of their natures that they are disposed to take the law into their own hands and commit a crime in return for a crime. In case it is true, however, that the passions of men have come close to the place where they will be uncontrollable by the ordinary forces of the law, it is the part of courage and intelligence to augment the machinery of orderly procedure to such an extent that it can and will function in spite of extraordinary conditions. Sending state troops to prevent a lynching will bring a state and its governor publicity, but publicity of the most desirable sort, especially by contrast with what comes when a mob of crazed human beings hang or burn a fellow for some real or fancied offense, no matter how terrible. Gov. Sampson has the right idea, and it is pertinent to observe that quick and courageous action of the same general sort during 1927 is credited with having prevented no less than forty-two lynchings in this country.

News
CHATTANOOGA
TENNESSEE
DEC 30 1927

Fewer Lynchings

Those who usually make compilations state that there were seventeen lynchings during the year 1927, as against thirty for last year. That represents quite a creditable showing for the better, and indicates, we believe, a healthy growth of public sentiment against the barbarous custom. We are pained to note, however, that one of the seventeen lynchings was perpetrated in Tennessee, in one of its finest communities, with a very weak show of resistance. There was also one in the state last year. Perhaps the best that can be said in this connection is that not many lynchings are attempted in Tennessee, hence officers are not so alert to prevent them as might be desired.

That lynchings are coming more universally to be condemned, particularly so in the south, is obviously clear. Still there are those, however, who feel called upon in periods of excitement to take the law into their own hands. In forty-two instances, involving sixty-eight persons, threatened lynchings have been prevented by the vigilance of officers. That also is a good record, and indicates the possibilities. Mobs are quite generally cowardly and are slow about precipitating eventualities where official pluck and determination are on guard. Members do not wish to risk their own lives while seeking that of the accused miscreant.

Lynching is an indefensible barbarity. It is usually undertaken by not over-scrupulous persons who fancy that outraged public sentiment will support them. But that defense is no longer available. Lynching is murder, as is the individual taking of life in revenge. There was a time when it appeared more tolerable, but that time is past. If our courts could be depended on to do their duty with promptness, there would be fewer lynchings still. They are often so dilatory as to impose a great strain on public patience. Mob murder, however, is never justifiable.

LaGrange, Ga., Graphic
JAN 6 1928

Sixteen Lynched During Past Year

Sixteen persons were lynched in 1927, as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, one less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. 1p of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were Murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas 1.

NEW YORK EVE. POST
DEC 22 1927

LYNCHINGS ON DECLINE

Moton, on Visit to White House, Tells of Conditions in South

Washington, Dec. 22 (AP).—Lynching is on the decrease in the South, Robert R. Moton, principal of the Tuskegee Institute, told President Coolidge today during a call at the White House.

BIRMINGHAM, ALA.
News
JAN 1 1928

16 Lynchings In 1927 Equal Low Record Of 1924

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Dec. 31.—(AP)—Sixteen persons, all negroes, were lynched during 1927, it was announced Saturday by Tuskegee Institute on the basis of records compiled by its department of records and research. This compared with 30 in the previous year, 17 in 1924, and 33 in 1923.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each were listed as follows: Mississippi, 7; Arkansas, 3; Tennessee, 2; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

Four of the victims were burned to death, the report said, and the bodies of two were burned after they had been put to death. Offenses with which they were charged included murder, assault, attempted assault and improper conduct.

The report said that of those lynched, six were taken from jails and six seized from officers of the law outside jails. It added that there were 42 instances in which officers prevented lynchings, 34 in Southern states and 8 in Northern states.

Clayton, Ala., Record

DEC 30 1927

ALABAMA HAS NO LYNCHINGS DURING YEAR 1927

—O—

According to figures given out by R. R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Institute, there were no lynchings in the State of Alabama during the past year, and only 16 in the United States.

This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16, for 1924, and 17 less than the number 33, for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were femoved or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 whites and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee 2; Texas, 1.

Maryville, Tenn., Ti

Enterprise

JAN 4 1928

LYNCH LAW STILL AT WORK IN SOUTH

The following is the annual report of Robt. R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Institute on lynchings and attempted mob violence in the United States for 1927:

Dear Sir:

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee 2; Texas, 1.

Yours very truly,
Robert F. Moton,
Principal.

GRANDFIELD, OK., ENTERPRISE
DECEMBER 30, 1927

LYNCHING BEES ARE ON THE DECLINE

According to information being sent out by the Tuskogee Normal, college founded by Booker T. Washington at Tuskogee, Alabama, lynchings have decreased. In all cases on records the lynchings are all negroes.

In 1927, there were 16 persons lynched, a total of 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924, and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of thees were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes weer thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were: murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

Florala Ala
News

DEC 29 1927

16 LYNCHINGS OCCUR DURING THE YEAR, 1927

However, None of These Happened In The State Of Alabama.

Tuskegee Institute, Ala.,
Dec. 21, 1927.

Lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, there were

persons lynched in 1927, this is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, one less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923; 13 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails; 4 o the persons were burned to death; two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings; 8 of these were in Northern States and 34 in Southern States. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 1; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not report-

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J.
Press

JAN 11 1928

JOIN NO-LYNCHING STATES

(From the Atlanta Constitution)

The department of records and research of Tuskegee Institute has completed its annual survey as to lynchings in the United States during 1927. In the entire country there were only 16 lynchings in 1927, which is 14 less than the number for 1926.

The states in which lynchings occurred, and the number in each state, are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2, and Texas, 1.

It is noticeable that, along with Georgia, there were no 1927 lynchings in either of the Carolinas or in Florida, or Alabama. That is, the South Atlantic seaboard states, or the southeast proper, made a record in 1927 so commendable in this respect that it is deserving of comment and general na-

tional knowledge. It illustrates that in this great section of the country there is developing a stronger feeling for the supremacy of law and order and for the security of constitu-

...crusades against ... evidences of mob violen... courage of enforcement ... officials, along with a stronger public sentiment against mob violence, have been contributing factors toward this improved situation.

Centreville
Ala Press

JAN 5 1928

Record Of Lynchings.

I send you the followering concerning lynchings for the past year as complied by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. I find there were 1 persons lynched in 1927, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the low outside of the jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in whicl ocicers of the law prevented lynch ings. 8 of these were in the Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augumented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 White and 53 Negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 7; attempted murder, 2 rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occured and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7 Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1

R. R. Moton, Principal.

Lynchings-1927
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan. - Dec.

2651

ABBEVILLE, S. C., Banner,
JAN 5 1928

Fewer Lynchings Noted Last Year

Tuskegee, Ala., Jan. 3.—Sixteen persons, all negroes, were lynched during 1927, it was announced today by Tuskegee Institute, on the basis of record compiled by its department of research and records. This compared with 30 in the previous year, 17 in 1925, 16 in 1924 and 33 in 1923.

Four of the victims were burned to death, the report said and the bodies of two were burned after they had been put to death. Offenses with which they were charged included murder, assault, attempt assault and improper conduct.

The report said that of those lynched, six were taken from jails and six seized from officers of the law outside jails. It added that there were 42 instances in which officers prevented lynchings, 34 in southern states and eight in northern states.

officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texis 1.

Mississippi this year, the report showed. three in Tennessee and Arkansas, two in Florida and one each in Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri, North Carolina, Texas and California. All but two of the victims were negroes.

CLAUDIA, TEX., NEWS
DECEMBER 30, 1927

ABOUT LYNCHINGS

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed of the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed forces was used to repel them would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 3; improper conduct1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; La., 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1

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All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 1; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas,

ROBT. R. MOTON,
Principal.

rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

Quitman, Ga., Free Press

DEC 30 1927

No Lynchings In Georgia In 1927

The following report of lynchings compiled by Robert R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute of Alabama, shows the southern states in which lynchings have occurred this year:

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924, and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

BEATRICE, NEB., SUN
JANUARY 1, 1928

Tuskegee, Ala., Dec. 29. (AP)—Forty-three consecutive games on the gridiron without a loss is the record of Tuskegee Institute of Alabama, a negro college.

Forty of these games were won and the remainder tied. The only defeat suffered in four years of competition was early in 1923, when Morehouse College of Atlanta won, 6 to 0. During this period, the Tuskegee Tigers have scored 1,246 points against 121 for their opponents.

For the past three years, they have claimed the national negro collegiate title. While playing a spectacular game, the old fundamentals of football have been the "backbone" of the team's attack and defense.

MARSHALL, TEX. MESSENGER
DECEMBER 29, 1927

TEXAS HAS BUT ONE LYNCHING IN 1927

NEW YORK, Dec. 29. (AP).—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People today made public a survey showing a decrease in the number of lynchings from 34 in 1926 to 21 in 1927.

Seven men were lynched in

FLORALA, ALA., NEWS
DECEMBER 29, 1927

16 LYNCHINGS OCCUR DURING THE YEAR, 1927

However, None of These Happened In The State Of Alabama.

Tuskegee Institute, Ala., Dec. 21, 1927.

Lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, one less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923; 13 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails; 4 o the persons were burned to death; two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law pre-

BELOIT, KAS., CALL
JANUARY 6, 1928

Lynchings Are Less

The Tuskegee Institute n the Department of Records and Research finds there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers, 68 persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were —murder, 7; attempted murder, 2;

ABBEVILLE, MO. DEMOCRAT
JANUARY 6, 1928

STATISTICAL REPORT OF 1927 LYNCHINGS

The following report is made concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research.

There were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924, and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which

LINEVILLE KY. SUN
JANUARY 5, 1928

The Forum of the Press

The publication of communications in this column does not in any way imply editorial approval. This column is open to the public for discussion of any questions of public interest and communications are always welcomed. No unsigned communications will be published.

Editor The Sun:

I am sending you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. I find there 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of these cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augumented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred were as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

Yours very truly,
ROBERT R. MOTON,
Principal

SAN ANGELO, TEX. STANDARD
DECEMBER 29, 1927

Lynchings on Big Decrease

Twenty-one Claimed During 1927 By Mobs Noose, Report Shows

By The Associated Press.

NEW YORK, Dec. 29.—The National Association for the advancement of colored people today made public a survey showing a decrease in the number of lynchings from 30 in 1926 to 21 in 1927.

Seven men were lynched in Mississippi this year, the report showed, three in Tennessee and Arkansas, two in Florida and one each on the Kentucky-Virginia border, Louisiana, Missouri, North Carolina, Texas and California. All but two of the victims were negroes.

Rome, Ga., News-Tribune

JAN 1 1928

Georgia Has No Lynching Against Name During 1927

Report on lynchings occurring in the United States during 1926, as compiled by Robert R. Morton, principal of Tuskegee Institute, received in Rome yesterday shows Georgia's slate clean for the year, while there was a decrease of 14 in the total lynchings for the year.

The Morton report was as follows:

"I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

"There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

"All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were —murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

"The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1."

RECORD
Hickory N C
DEC 30 1927

The Way To Stop Lynching Is For Officers To Act

(Pittsburgh Courier, Negro Organ)

We have always contended that lynching can be stopped if the constituted authorities really wish to stop it. The customary report that the officers of the law have been "overpowered" by the mob is and always has been the most transparent fiction. Any armed and determined official can always protect his prisoner with little or no difficulty. It has been done with increasing frequency of late years and if this determined stand only becomes more widespread, lynching can soon be relegated to the museum of antiqities. Lack of courage brings the mob together and fear of consequences can disperse it.

A case in point is the recent incident in Goldsboro, N. C. There a half-witted Negro prisoner was being tried for the murder of a young girl. The court room was packed with the family and friends of the murdered girl. Suddenly the cry of "Take him!" rose in the crowded room. The savage mob surged forward to claim its victim. The officers of the law snapped immediately into action. The sheriff's revolver roared twice. The deputies threw themselves between the mob and the prisoner. Judge Henry A. Grady drew his revolver. The cowardly pack of would-be murderers shrank back before the show of force. "Gentlemen," warned the judge, "I would not willingly harm a man among you, but the next man who undertakes to lay hands upon this prisoner, I will shoot dead. There is not going to be a lynching here." The cowed mob slunk back to their seats, the leader of the mob was hand-cuffed, and the trial proceeded under the watchful eyes of a National Guard unit. A little determination, a little show of force, and another lynching was frustrated. What was done in Goldsboro can be done elsewhere. Lynching can be stopped if the officers of the law have a mind to stop it. Too often, however, they are themselves sympathetic with the mob and allow it to work its will.

Already the leader in Negro education, North Carolina can also become the leader in law enforcement. The State, happily, is substituting due process of law for mob murder. The next desirable step will be the putting to an end of the practice of sending imbeciles and half-wits to the electric chair—as was done in this case—instead of to the institution for the feeble-minded.

Watumpka, Ala., Herald

JAN 5 1928

Lynching Record For Year 1927

Lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research give a report of 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails, 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynching occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

A good place for the average youthful cut-up is the wood pile.

Camp Hill, Ala., News

JAN 5 1928

16 Lynchings In 1927 Equal Record of 1924

Tuskegee, Ala., Dec. 31—Sixteen persons, all negroes, were lynched during 1927, it was announced Saturday by Tuskegee Institute on the basis of records and research. This compared with 30 in the previous year, 17 in 1924, and 33 in 1923.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each were listed as follows: Mississippi, 7; Arkansas, 3; Tennessee, 2; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

Four of the victims were burned to death, the report said, and the bodies of two were burned after they had been put to death. Offenses with which they were charged included murder, assault, attempted assault and improper conduct.

The report said that of those lynched, six were taken from jails and six seized from officers of the law outside jails. It added that there were 42 instances in which officers prevented lynchings, 34 in Southern states and 8 in Northen states.

Lynchings-1927
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan. - Dec.

2652

Troy, Ala., Messenger

DEC 22 1927

LYNCHINGS DECREASE IN SOUTH

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22—(I. N.S.)—There were fewer lynchings in the south this year than last, President R. R. Moton of Tuskegee Institute, told President Coolidge today.

This year's figure, however, is greater than three years ago, he said.

BRONX HOME NEWS

DEC 28 1927

Decrease of Lynchings Reported to President

Washington.—Fewer lynchings occurred in the United States this year than last, President Coolidge was informed by Dr. R. R. Moton, president of Tuskegee Institute, Alabama.

The number of lynchings in 1927, however, was greater than three years ago, Dr. Moton said.

Troy, Ala., Herald

DEC 23 1927

LYNCHINGS DECREASE IN SOUTH

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22—(I. N.S.)—There were fewer lynchings in the south this year than last, President R. R. Moton of Tuskegee Institute, told President Coolidge today.

This year's figure, however, is greater than three years ago, he said.

Arlington, Ga., Courier

JAN 6 1928

Georgia Free from Lynchings In 1927

There were sixteen persons lynched in the United States in 1927, fourteen less than in 1926, when the number was thirty, according to figures compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state, according to the Institute' sfigures, are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1. Georgia which several times has been unfavorably distinguished by leading the list in the number of lynchings, passed the year 1927 without having a life taken by mob violence.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; not reported, 1.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of these cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances armed forces was used to repel would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 whites and 53 negros, were thus saved from death by mobs.

Walla Walla (Wn) Bulletin
January 1, 1928

1927 LYNCHINGS FAR BELOW 1926

16 Negroes Are Taken By Mobs Against 30 During Year Previous

There were 16 lynchings in the United States during 1927, according to the figures compiled by the department of records and research of the Tuskegee Institute of Alabama. This is 14 less than 1926 when 30 persons were lynched, and with the exception of 1924 when there were also 16 lynchings, is less than any year since 1923.

There were 42 attempted lynchings, eight in the northern states and 34 in the southern states, in which officers of the law prevented any violence. In 18 cases, armed force was resorted to repel the lynchers while in the remainder of the cases, the prisoners were either removed or the guards augmented. A total of 68 persons, 15 whites and 53 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched in 1927 were negroes. Twelve of them were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers outside of jails. All the lynchings occurred in southern states. There were seven in Mississippi, three in Arkansas, two in Tennessee, and one each in Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas.

NEW YORK WORLD

JAN 1 1928

16 LYNCHED IN NATION IN 1927, ALL NEGROES

Fourteen Less Than in 1926, Tuskegee Institute Reports—168 Saved by Officers

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala., Dec 31.—According to a compilation by Tuskegee Institute, sixteen persons, all Negroes, were lynched in the United States in 1927—fourteen less than in 1926 and one less than in 1925. Seven were lynched in Mississippi, three in Arkansas, two in Tennessee, and one each in Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas.

The offenses charged were: Murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1. Fifty-three Negroes and fifteen whites were saved from lynchings in forty-two instances by officers of the law. Eight of these cases were in the North and thirty-four in the South. But twelve of those lynched were taken from officers, six of them from jails and six from officers outside jails.

Tuskegee Records Show There Were 16 Persons Lynched in 1927

According to a compilation by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926; 1 less than the number 17 for 1925; the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law; 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death, and then their bodies burned.

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All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynching occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

Eastman, Ga., Times-Journal

JAN 5 1928

Sixteen Victims Of Mobs in 1927

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE FIGURES SHOW NONE LYNCHED IN GEORGIA. MANY KILLINGS PREVENTED.

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala., Dec. 31.—Figures compiled by Tuskeegee Institute in the department of records and research show there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 in 1926, one less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

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BRUNSWICK GA., News

JAN 8 1928

Sure! We like Him Too

Those who picked Hardman for a Heflin or a LaFollette reckoned without their host. Dr. Hardman, it seems, has selected the wisest course. He has followed the constructive, not a critical, policy, and when he returns to his office he still finds the green bays of Christmas decoration.—Savannah Press.

Judge Lynch Has Passed in Our State!

Georgia in 1926 had one lynching against it and the clean slate in 1927 is a welcome record. There is a growing sentiment in Georgia and the entire country, for that matter, to let the courts take their course. There is no better illustration of this than when in 1926 eleven men charged with murder in connection with the lynching of a negro were sentenced to the state penitentiary in varying terms ranging from one year to life imprisonment. Mob law is without excuse; it is a deadening blow struck at the very foundation of the law the mob members believe has been outraged when they take it into their own hands.—Rome News-Tribune.

CHATTANOOGA, TENN., Times

JAN 2 1928

SIXTEEN LYNCHINGS FOR YEAR NOW PAST

Tuskegee Report Shows All Dead Were Negroes.

Tennessee Third on List With Two—Mississippi Leads With Seven.

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 1 (AP).—Sixteen persons, all negroes, were lynched during 1927, it was announced today by Tuskegee institute on the basis of records compiled by its department of records and research. This compared with thirty in the previous year, seventeen in 1925, sixteen in 1924 and thirty-three in 1923.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each were listed as follows: Mississippi, 7; Arkansas, 3; Tennessee, 2; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

Four of the victims were burned to death, the report said, and the bodies of two were burned after they had been put to death. Offenses with which they were charged included murder, assault, attempted assault and improper conduct.

The report said that of those lynched six were taken from jails and six seized from officers of the law outside jails. It added that there were forty-two instances in which officers prevented lynchings, thirty-four in southern states and eight in northern states.

"NORTH POLE PLUMBERS"
are here.
Tom Wilcox Plumbing Co.
Main 550. —(adv.)

Manchester, Ga., Mercury

JAN 6 1928

No Lynchings in Georgia During 1927

The following report of lynchings compiled by Robert R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute of Alabama, shows the southern states in which lynchings have occurred this year:

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research.

I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924, and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

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Dadeville, Ala., Spot Cash

JAN 5 1928

16 Lynchings In 1927 Equal Record of 1924

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MRS. LEWIS GETS COURT POSITION

As the result of the personal efforts of Oscar DePriest, Third Ward Republican committeeman, Mrs. Irene Lewis was elected head of the adult probation officers by the judges of the municipal court Monday, by Judge John J. Lupe.

Mrs. Lewis is the wife of Morris Lewis, secretary of the Third Ward Republican organization. She has been identified with politics associated with Mr. DePriest for many years.

Laurens, S. C., Herald

JAN 6 1928

Sixteen Lynched During Past Year

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Eastman, Ga., Times-Journal

JAN 5 1928

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There was 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be-lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported,1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

Conyers, Ga., Times

JAN 6 1928

GEORGIA FREE FROM LYNCHINGS IN 1927

Decline in mob violence over the entire United States is shown

There were sixteen persons lynched in the United States in 1927, fourteen less than in 1926, when the number was thirty, according to figures compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state, according to the Institute's figures, are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas 1. Georgia, which several times has been unfavorably distinguished by leading the list in the number of lynchings, passed the year 1927 without a life taken by mob violence.

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MACON, GA., Telegraph.

JAN 10 1928

What Georgia Editors Say

THE LYNCHING RECORD

Georgia came through 1927 without a lynching. Some say that it is the first year since the Civil War that not a single lynching was noted in the state. It will be just as easy, though to go through 1928 and 1929, and all of the coming years, without one. Let's try and see. We say this to Grady countains, even though there has never been a legal nor an illegal execution here.—Cairo Messenger.

Seattle, Wash., Post Intelligencer
DECEMBER 24, 1927

Lynchings Decrease In U. S. During Year

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23. — (By Universal Service)—Fewer lynchings occurred in the United States this year than last, President Coolidge was informed today by Dr. R. R. Moton, president of Tuskegee Institute, Ala. The [illegible]

Lynchings-1927
Reports on, Sent Press,

Jan. - Dec.

2653

TUSCALOOSA, ALA., Times Gazette

JAN 3 1928

Lynchings In 1927

ALABAMA'S record is clear of lynchings during the year of 1927, according to the announcement which has just been made from Tuskegee institute, where the records for the past year have been compiled. Arkansas has three to her discredit, Kentucky, one; Louisiana, one; Mississippi, seven; Missouri, one; Tennessee, two; and Texas, one. All of the lynchings occurred in the south, though in eight instances lynchings were prevented in the north by officers, and officers in the north by officers, and officers in the southern states prevented thirty-four lynchings.

The 1927 record was fourteen less than the record for 1926, when thirty persons were lynched. The reduction is a matter in which the nation may take pride.

But while Alabama's records are clear as regards lynchings, floggings, which are offenses of a similar nature have gained for Alabama as much unfavorable publicity as have lynchings for the other southern states. The publicity, however, was warranted. Flogging can continue only so long as identities remain hidden and the public is not in possession of the facts. Next year it is to be hoped that Alabama's flogging record will show considerable improvement, and it is not at all likely that the past year's record in that line will be continued.

shown much improvement in recent years. It is chiefly to the courage and determination of sheriffs and other officers that the lessening of the lynching evil is due.

ANDERSON (IND.) HERALD
Friday, Jan. 13, 1928

Fewer Lynchings

According to the annual report of the Tuskegee institute, there were only 16 persons lynched in the United States during 1927. While this is the lowest number recorded in any year since records have been kept, except 1924 which showed the same number, it is 16 too many.

Still, when compared with the terrible record of 35 years ago, this report should give encouragement to all who are striving to remove the blot of lynch law from American civilization. To show briefly how lynching has decreased, a few figures will be of interest.

Lynching reached its most frightful height in 1892, when 255 persons were murdered by mobs. Of this number 100 were white and 155 colored. There were 115 lynched in 1900, 74 in 1910, 61 in 1920, 64 in 1921, 57 in 1922, 33 in 1923, 16 in 1924, 17 in 1925, 30 in 1926 and 16 in 1927.

During 1927 officers of the law protected 42 persons from mobs and in numerous other cases prisoners were removed to other jails as a precautionary measure. The record of law officers in this respect has

Dothan, Ala., Eagle

JAN 7 1928

OUT TO WIN AGAIN

Out of the 15 lynchings in Southern States in 1927 Mississippi was credited with 7. Which is not exactly news, for Mississippi usually lynches more than any other State.

The new year is less than a week old, but Mississippi has already demonstrated that she is alert to defend her crown in 1928. Thursday a group of her patriots made an effort to lynch a young man whose wife lost her life when their house burned. They didn't believe him when he said it was an accident, and that he dashed into the house and saved his baby but was unable to save his wife.

It is our guess that Mississippi will continue to lead Southern States in lynchings for many years to come, for the idea of mob law cannot be dissuaded from the minds of certain citizens of that State. It will require education among the younger generation.

TIMES DISPATCH
RICHMOND, VA.

DEC 29 1927

Lynchings During the Year

FIGURES compiled by the Department of Records and Research of Tuskegee Institute on lynchings in the United States during the year reveal a gratifying reduction in their number, as compared with the records of this nefarious business for the preceding twelve months.

During 1927 a total of sixteen persons lost their lives at the hands of mobs, as against thirty in 1926. There were forty-two instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern States and thirty-four in Southern States. Armed forces frequently were employed to repel mobs bent upon taking the law into their own hands. It is estimated that this vigilance and devotion to duty on the part of the authorities saved sixty-eight persons from lynching bees.

While comparison of these outrages for the years 1926 and 1927 are very gratifying, as revealing a reduction of nearly 100 per cent, 1927 does not stand out so brightly when figures for some other twelve-months periods are examined. It was just about an average year in this respect. However, the record of armed resistance to would-be lynchers is evidence of a growing protest against such acts of lawlessness, and The Times-Dispatch is looking forward to the day when this form of barbarism will be one with barbarisms of the Dark Ages.

Governor Byrd remarked some time ago that a murderer was a murderer, whether he shot down as an individual or participated in a lynching bee which resulted in death. That expresses the opinion of every law-abiding citizen, no matter where he lives. Orderly government cannot tolerate this aggravated form of disorderliness. If mobs are permitted to do to death men without the semblance of trial by constituted authority, justice has been mocked openly and the courts have become dead governmental timber. It is one of the cherished principles of civilized peoples everywhere that all men, however debased they may be, are entitled to have their peers sit in judgment upon them; when that principle is scorned the civilization we know has become endangered.

Every participant in a lynching, if it be possible to apprehend him, should be haled to a court of justice and tried for murder, just as the man who, as an individual, kills in cold blood. There is no difference, so far as the law is concerned, in their crimes.

MACON, GA., Telegraph,

JAN 1 1928

SIXTEEN VICTIMS OF MOBS IN 1927

Tuskegee Figures Show None Lynched in Georgia

MANY KILLINGS PREVENTED

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala., Dec. 31.—Figures compiled by Tuskegee institute in the department of records and research show there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 in 1926, one less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There was 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

Seven Days to Go

It is with some trepidation that one comments upon the report of R. R. Moton, president of Tuskegee institute, to President Coolidge that lynching is declining in the South. Last year, the newspapers of Georgia engaged in felicitations that proved to be premature. Coffee county came in with a lynching in the last 30 days of the year. So far, there has been no lynching in Georgia this year, but seven days remain.

It is true, however, that lynching is declining in the South. This year's figures are not available, but they will show that decline. Florida has taken the place of Mississippi as the worst offender against legal justice, while Arkansas is running a good second. Mississippi and Georgia, which have occupied high places in the lynching record, have gone further down in the lists. If the hoodlums in this state remain quiescent for another week, Georgia will take her place along with those civilized communities that long ago recognized the bestiality and the savagery of the lynch law.

Macon Ga Telegraph
DEC 25 1927

state: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2, and Texas, 1.

PENSACOLA, FLA. Journal.

JAN 7 1928

16 LYNCHINGS IN SOUTH LAST YEAR

Arkansas Leads With Three Deaths at Mobs' Hands

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 6.—Sixteen persons were lynched in seven southern states during 1927, the annual survey by Tuskeegee Norma

The Tuskegee report shows 42 and Industrial institute (negro) herenstances in which officers of the shows. This contrasts with 30 such law prevented lynchings. Eight of deaths during 1926. Seventeen these were in northern states and 34 lynchings were reported in 1925, six- In southern states. teen for 1924 and 33 for 1923. All of the persons lynched were Twelve of the persons lynched this negroes. The offenses charged were: murder 7; attempted murder 2; rape 2; assault 2; attempted assault 3; improper conduct 1, charge not reported 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each

Missoula (Mont) Sentinel
January 4, 1928

A BETTER LYNCHING RECORD.

Robert R. Moton, principal of the Tuskegee school for negroes, reports that the lynching record of 1927 was less shameful than that of 1926. Last year sixteen persons, all negroes, were lynched. This is fourteen less than the record for 1926, which was one of the worst years of recent record. It was one less than the seventeen lynchings recorded for 1925 and exactly the same as the number charged against 1924. It is, however, seventeen less than the thirty-three for which 1923 was blamed.

So the record of 1927 is at least fairly good. More encouraging is the fact that there were forty-two instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, thirty-four in southern states, and eight in northern states. Mr. Moton does not add that leaders of mobs are now serving penitentiary sentences in several southern states, notably in Georgia, where there seems to be a determination to abolish Judge Lynch and his summary court. It is to be noted that neither Georgia nor Florida, also active against lynchers, had this sort of crime charged against it during the year. Mississippi, one of the most backward American commonwealths, leads the shameful record with seven lynchings. Arkansas is next with three, Tennessee had two and Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri, and Texas had one each.

Probably it is too much to hope that 1928 will be the first year without a lynching anywhere in this country, but, we believe, such a year will come to pass eventually. We believe this for the reason that the country is becoming conscious of lynchings as a serious crime and also because the southern states are learning that thousands of needed laborers have emigrated on account of fear of lynch law. The reform we anticipate will come about, we think, as most reforms do, through a combination of moral sense and economic expediency.

Montgomery, Ala., Advertiser
JAN 8 1928

LYNCHINGS

There is some satisfaction in the fact that last year there were only sixteen lynchings in the country, a reduction under the number from the year before and the lowest on record except for one year—1924—when the total was likewise sixteen. But we should not be satisfied until the time comes when it will be very unusual for any year to be marred by a lynching. And that time, we believe, is not far off. Many States that once had numerous lynchings every year have shown recently that they could get along without them year after year, and Alabama, we are pleased to record, is one of them.

Alexander City, Ala., Outlook
JAN 5 1928

ONLY 16 PERSONS LYNCHED IN 1927, COMPARED WITH 30, IN 1926; 33, IN 192

Dear Sir:

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and their their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 whites and 53 Negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occured and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

Yours very truly,
R. R. MOTON, Principal.

TUSCALOOSA, ALA.,
Times Gazette JAN 1 - 1928

TUSKEGEE GIVES LYNCHING TOLL

Lawless 1927 Deaths In United States Only Half Those In 1926

Sixteen persons were lynched during the year 1927, according to an announcement made today by the department of records and research of Tuskegee institute. That number was 14 less than the 30 persons lynched in 1926, and one less than the 17 persons lynched in 1925. The records show the same number of persons, 16, lynched in 1924, and 33 persons lynched in 1923.

Of the persons lynched in 1927, 12 weer taken out of the hands of the law; six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of the jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, and the bodies of two more were burned after they had been put to dath.

Halted Mobs

During the past year there were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. In eight instahces this occurred in northern states, and in 34 instances in southern states. In twenty-four instances the prisoners were removed to points of safety or the guards were augmented or other precautions were taken. Armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers in 18 other instances. A total of 68 persons, 15 white persons and 53 negroes, weer saved from death at the hands of mobs.

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Thomasville, Ga. Enterprise
JAN 5 1928

SOUTH'S LYNCHING RECORD

The lynching record for the South last year is exceptional. There were fifteen lynchings, according to statistics, and seven of those were in Mississippi. This latter state seem to lead her sister states in the pastime of ridding itself of undesirable citizens without due process of law or any just and fair consideration for the rights of the state.

It is notable that no lynchings were recorded in Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia Florida or Alabama. It is perhaps the first time that Georgia has a clean slate and certainly the first time that this tier of states has been without one blot of that kind on its yearly record.

But while we may pat ourselves on the back that our people have realized that this form of lawlessness is to be shunned there are other questions, which confront us almost as dangerous in their effect as that of taking the law into one's hands even to the shedding of life blood. The result of years of effort is just showing up in the lynching record and the younger generation while endowed with pretty much the same passions, prejudices and proneness to wild excitement as the preceding has been trained to eschew private murder in the name of the law.

But the question of floggings is very conspicuous in some of the states where there were no lynchings, notably Alabama and Georgia. There have been numerous evidences of illegal punishment administered in Alabama and in Georgia also. This is an offshoot of the lynching idea, propagated during the past few years into a wild orgy in some sections. Its dangers are more and more evident as we witness the extent to which they are carried and the utter folly of the crime. We will have to be up and doing if we would keep that slate clean also.

CORPUS CHRISTI, TEX., CALLER
JANUARY 1, 1928

Sixteen Lynched In United States During Past Year

Tuskegee, Ala., Dec. 31.—There were sixteen persons lynched in the United States in 1927, four less than were lynched in 1926, according to the department of records and research of Tuskegee institute. In 1925 there were seventeen lynched; in 1924, sixteen; and in 1923, thirty-five.

Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from the hands of the law outside jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and their bodies burned.

There were forty-two instances in which officers prevented lynchings; eight of these were in northern states and thirty-four in Southern states. In twenty-four of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In eighteen cases, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers.

Mississippi led with seven lynchings; Arkansas, three; Tennessee, two; Kentucky, one; Louisiana, one; Missouri, one; and Texas, one. Murder was the chief offense charged, seven having been lynched on that charge.

Lynchings-1927
Reports on, sent Press,

Jan.- Dec.

2654

PINXSUTAWNEY PA SPIRIT
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1927

Lynching Record In U. S. for Past Year Falls Off

The following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, show 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, one less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 1924 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

Millen, Ga., News

less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside fo jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1 charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

R. R. MORTON, Principal.
Sylacauga, Ala., Advance

teen persons, all negroes, were lynched during 1927, according to the annual lynching report made by Tuskegee Institute here tonight. There were no lynchings in Alabama.

This compares with 30 in the year previous, 17 in 1925, 16 in 1924 and 33 in 1923.

The states in which lynchings occurred in 1927 were Mississippi, 7; Arkansas, 3; Tennessee. 2 Kentucky, 1; Lousiana, 1. Missouri, 1, and Texas one.

Four of the victims were burned to death, the report said, and the bodies of two were burned after they were put to death.

Offenses with which they were charged included murder, assault, attempted assault and improper conduct.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons. 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs, the report says.

Columbus (O. State Journal
Jan. 2, 1928

than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses were: Murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

R. R. MOTON,
Principal Tuskegee Institute.
Tuskegee Institute, Ala., Dec. 28.

while two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law precvented lynchings. 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards auymented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were —murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

DEC 28 1927

Lynching Record for Year Just Ended

Tuskegee Institute, Ala., Dec. 21, '27

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same numbre 16 as for 1924 and 17

JAN 8 1928

NO LYNCHINGS IN THIS STATE PAST YEAR

Only 16 Instances Of Mob Killing Recorded In United States

Tuskegee, Ala., Jan. 5.—Six-

SIXTEEN LYNCHINGS IN 1927.

Editor Ohio State Journal:

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute, in the department of records and research.

I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, one less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number, 16, as for 1924, and 17 less

SOUTHWEST DIVISION
KANSAS CITY

Waynesville, Ind.
Dec. 31, 1927

LYNCHINGS FALL OFF DURING 1927

Sixteen Meet Violent Deaths For Crimes Committed In Past Year—Decrease of Fourteen over Previous Year and the Smallest Number In Many Years.

Birmingham, Ala., December 30. —Statistics compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research show that only sixteen persons were lynched during the year -927, a decrease of fourteen from the number 30 for 1926. The report shows that the number of lynchings were one less than the 17 for 1925, the same number 16 for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons linched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the numer were burned to death

OWENSBORO KY., INQUIRER
Monday, Jan. 2, 1928

LYNCHINGS IN U. S. DECREASE

New Low Records Established For 1927

TUSKEGEE, Ala., January 2.—(INS)—The United States established a new low record for lynchings in the year just closed.

A special report issued tonight by the Tuskegee Institute records 16 lynchings during the year—one less than the previous low record of 1925.

All the 1927 victims were negroes. Twelve were taken from the hands of the law by violence.

Lynchings in 1926 numbered thirty.

Officers of the law prevented lynchings in 42 instances, the report added. Eight of these instances were in Northern states and 34 in the southern.

The number of lynchings by states:

Mississippi 7; Arkansas 3; Tennessee 2; Kentucky, Ala., Missouri and Texas one each.

KANSAS CITY, MO.
TOPEKA, KAN.

SOWATA OK. STAR
DECEMBER 27, 1927

LYNCHINGS IN 1927.

Tuskegee, Ala., Dec. 27.—According to figures compiled by the department of records and research at Tuskegee Institute, there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, one less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 for 1924, and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from he hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented, or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky. 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

URBANA OHIO DEMOCRAT
Saturday, Dec. 31, 1927

—The Tuskegee Institute, Alabama, has compiled data on lynchings for the past year, showing a total of 16 in the country, or 14 less than last year, 17 less than 1925, and less than in the preceeding years by a comfortable margin. Officers prevented lynchings in 42 instances, the report says. Of these 34 were in southern states. All lynchings occurred in southern states

NEW YORK AMERICAN
DEC 23 1927

Lynchings Fewer, Educator Declares

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—Fewer lynchings occurred in the United States this year than last, President Coolidge was informed today by Dr. R. R. Moton, president of Tuskegee Institute, Alabama. The number of lynchings in 1927, however, was greater than three years ago, Dr. Moton said.

FALLS CITY NEB NEWS
JANUARY 4, 1928

WORLD GROWS BETTER

That the world is growing better is believed by the board of trustees of Tuskegee Institute, and the belief is borne out by the findings relative to lynching in the south, which have been compiled by the institute's Department of Records and Research. It is considered that the decided falling-off in the number of these atrocities is an indication of the growth of a spirit favoring a respect for law and its processes on the part of the populace of the south, and any increase in respect for law is a decided moral growth in a community.

In 1927, according to the report of the board, there were 16 lynchings in the south, which is 14 lass than in the year 1926, when there were 30; 1 less than the number 17 for 1925; the same number as in 1924; and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of those lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six being taken from pails and six from offices of the law outside the jails. Four of the persons were burned to death. Two were put to death, and their bodies afterwards burned.

The report shows, as stated, 16 lynchings; and it shows, also, that there were 42 cases where officers of the law prevented lynchings, eight of these being in northern states. In 24 of the 42 cases, the prisoners were removed, or the number of guards increased, or other precautions taken. In the remaining 18 cases, armed force was used to repel the mobs. In some of these 42 cases, more than one accused person was concerned, which accounts for the fact that 68 persons, of whom 15 were white and 53 were negroes, were thus saved from mob violence.

All of the sixteen persons lynched were negroes, their offenses charged being murder, 7; attempt murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; and charge not reported, 1.

The states in which the lynchings of 1927 occurred, and the number in each, were Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; and Texas, 1.

SAVANNAH (GEORGIA) PRESS
December 29, 1927

ONLY 16 LYNCHINGS IN U. S. LAST YEAR, TUSKEGEE REPORTS

GEORGIA HAS CLEAN SLATE; 30 LYNCHED IN 1926

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala., Dec. 29, 1927.—The following concerning lynchings for the past year was compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research. There were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than for 1926, 1 less than for 1925, the same number as for 1924 and 17 less than for 1923. Of the persons lynched 12 were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

Forty-two Averted.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings—in Northern states 8 and in Southern states 34. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons—15 whites and 53 negroes—were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All Negroes.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; assault, 2; attempted assault, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

BELOIT KS CALL
JANUARY 12, 1928

this country.

Lynchings Are Less

The Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research finds there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers, 68 persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were —murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

LOUISIANA MO. JOURNAL
JANUARY 10, 1928

LYNCHINGS DECREASED LAST YEAR

According to the Annual Report of the Tuskegee Institute.

According to the department of records and research of Tuskegee institute at Tuskegee, Ala., 16 persons were lynched in 1927. This was 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, one less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 35 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Two of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 7; atempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

Johnson City, Tenn. Staff News
Friday, Dec. 30, 1927

LYNCHED IN 1927, REPORTS TUSKEGEE

The following report concerning lynchings for the past year is compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research, and shows:

There were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, one less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number, 16, as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lunchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

Lynchings-1927
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan. - Dec.

2655

Durham (NC) Herald
January 1, 1928

DECREASE IN LYNCHING

Lynrhing got its most effective curb during the year just closed, according to a statement issued by the department of records and research of Tuskegee institute. Sixteen persons were lynched in 1927, which equals the low record of 1924, and is 14 less than 1926. Twelve of the victims were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers who had them in charge.

The decrease in lynchings is explained in a manner by the fact that in 42 instances officers of the law prevented probable lynchings by using prompt and vigorous measures to protect their prisoners. Of that number of lynchings probably prevented, 34 were in the South, showing that officers in the southern states are becoming more determined to protect the men in their custody. Had the officers been of that same frame of mind in the past, the lynching record of other years would not have been so discreditable.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. It is of interest in this connection to note that only two of the 15 lynched were accused of rape and only three were charged with attempted rape, a total of five of the 16 being accused of attacking women. That is interesting in view of the fact that there is a general impression that most of the victims of lynching are guilty of attacks on women. That version is not borne out by the statistics.

North Carolina again went through a year without a lynching, this being the seventh consecutive year, we believe, that the state has passed without having her record marred by that form of crime. It is also of interest that no lynching was perpetrated in any South Atlantic seaboard state during the past year, Mississippi leading the country with seven, Arkansas coming second with three, Tennessee third with two, and Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas one each.

The lynching record for the past five years follows: 16 in 1927; 30 in 1926, 17 in 1925, 16 in 1924 and 33 in 1923.

According to the Tuskegee report, which for years has been considered authority on the subject of lynchings, in 18 cases protecting officers used force to prevent mobs from getting to prisoners. That is in contrast with the custom of some years ago, when an officer would not dare for political reasons, to use force in repelling mob members would almost ...enge in the next election.

...on for the Advancement

of Colored people a day or two ago gave out some lynching statistics of its own, and they are at variance with the figures given out at Tuskegee, but that is not surprising, as that national organization seems to have a tendency to be unfair to the south, whether intentional or not is not known. That association claims there were 21 lynchings in 1927, and credits one of them to North Carolina. If that report were to be believed, then this state's record was broken. We are not informed at this time as to where the association found its one North Carolina lynching. It possibly referred to the killing of the fugitive from justice by a pursuing posse in Nash county, we believe it was, several months ago. Or maybe it referred to the killing of the Negro accused of attacking and murdering a girl in Morganton. Neither of those cases properly come under the head of lynching, though there were some persons who condemned the shooting of the Negro by the Nash county posse.

Governor Cameron Morrison announced in the beginning of his administration nearly seven years ago that there would be no lynching in the state during his term of office if humanly possible to prevent. And there wasn't Governor Morrison was criticised a few times because he called out troops to protect a prisoner when there was small prospect of mob violence. But the Governor was right. He had no way of knowing how much mob passion was in the hearts of a community, and he acted upon the policy of an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. He did exactly right. There was no lynching in this state in his administration. Governor McLean has ben just as firm in his determination to prevent mob violence, and he too has been prompt to take steps to protect prisoners.

During the seven years of the administrations of Morrison and McLean, the state has not had what can be properly termed a lynching. And it is hoped that the seven year record will be stretched into seven times seven and then some. Whether the record is maintained depends upon the vigilance of the officers and the promptness and effectiveness of the courts.

BROOKFIELD MO BUDGET
JANUARY 6, 1928

LYNCHINGS IN THE YEAR 1927 WERE 16

The Report Says That Arkansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Tennessee Took Part

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1. Yours very truly,

R. R. Moton, Prin.

DENISON (TEX.) HERALD
DECEMBER 27, 1927

LYNCHINGS SHOW DECREASE IN TEXAS

The following statement has been issued by Robert R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Institute:

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, one less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails; four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were forty-two instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern states and thirty-four in Southern states. In twenty-four of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In eighteen other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, fifteen white and fifty-three negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1, charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1, Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

EWING, KY., INQUIRER
Friday, Jan. 13, 1928

Fewer Lynchings

According to the annual report of the Tuskegee Institute, there were only 16 persons lynched in the United States during 1927. While this is the lowest number recorded in any year since records have been kept, except 1924 which showed the same number, it is 16 too many.

Still, when compared with the terrible record of 35 years ago, this report should give encouragement to all who are striving to remove the blot of American civilization. To show briefly has lynching has decreased, a few figures will be of interest.

Lynching reached its most frightful height in 1892, when 255 persons were murdered by mobs. Of this number 100 were white and 155 colored. There were 115 lynched in 1900, 74 in 1910, 61 in 1920, 64 in 1921, 57 in 1922, 33 in 1923, 16 in 1924, 17 in 1925, 30 in 1926 and 16 in 1927.

During 1927 officers of the law protected 42 persons from mobs and in numerous other cases prisoners were removed to other jails as precautionary measure. The record of law officers in this respect has shown much improvement in recent years.

It is chiefly to the courage and determination of sheriffs and other officers that the lessening of the lynching evil is due.

HERALD
Rochester, N. Y.

12-4

Number of Lynchings During 1927 Listed

To the Editor:

Sir: I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, one less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails; four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings; eight of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixey-eight persons, 15 whit and 53 Negroes, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons were Negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

PARIS TEX. NEWS
DECEMBER 24, 1927

Lynching on Decline.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—Lynching is on the decrease in the south, Robert R. Moton, principal of the Tuskegee Institute, told President Coolidge today during a call at the White House.

AKRON, O. JOURNAL
Dec. 22, 1927

LYNCHING ON DECREASE

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22. (AP)—Lynching is on the decrease in the south, Robert R. Moton, principal of the Tuskegee Institute told President Coolidge today during a call at the White House.

MUNCIE, IND. STAR
Sunday, Jan. 1, 1928

16 LYNCHINGS IN YEAR 1927

12

Statistics of Color, Causes and Places Gathered by Tuskegee Institute.

Tuskegee Institute, Ala., Dec. 31—(Special).—Tuskegee Institute, department of records and research, reports that there were sixteen persons lynched in 1927. This is fourteen less than the number (thirty) for 1926; one less than the number (seventeen) for 1925; the same number (sixteen) as for 1924, and seventeen less than the number (thirty-three) for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death; two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were forty-two instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern states and thirty-four in Southern states. In twenty-four of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In eighteen other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons—fifteen white and fifty-three Negroes—were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, seven; attempted murder, two; rape, two; attempted rape, three; improper conduct, one; charge not reported, one.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, three; Kentucky, one; Louisiana, one; Mississippi, seven; Missouri, one; Tennessee, two; Texas, one.

NASHVILLE TENN. BANNER
Monday, Jan. 2, 1928

knows the game and has thus far played it as an expert.

THE LYNCHING RECORD.

12

There is, of course, a certain amount of gratification over the fact that Tuskegee Institute's annual report on lynching shows a new low record of these brutal crimes for the United States, but the people of this section must still hang their heads in shame when the matter comes up for discussion. There were sixteen instances of mob violence in the country during the year just past and every one of them occurred in the South. Mississippi led the roll of dishonor with seven lynchings, Arkansas had three, Tennessee two, and Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas one each. All the victims of organized lawlessness were Negroes, and there was not in evidence after any single one of these crimes the definite expression of outraged public sentiment that would have resulted in running down and bringing to justice those who were responsible for putting an indelible blot on the record of the states where lynch law took things into its hands. The foregoing words are not agreeable, but they are true, and only through looking such situations fair in the face may the South hope to redeem itself once and for all from the worst disgrace that now attaches to it.

Though the South may not feel otherwise than deeply shamed at the phase of the Tuskegee report that deals with lynchings actually perpetrated, it has ground for hope and congratulation in the large number of instances in which courageous officers of the law foiled the plans of mobs and saved their prisoners from gun, rope or fire. Lynchings were prevented on no less than forty-two occasions in 1927, and thirty-four of these instances took place in the South. It is a state of affairs that carries great promise of the final eradication of mob law in this section. It may also be said that the South owes no greater debt of gratitude to any of its citizens than to the men who defied mobs and prevented the utterly disgraceful and inexcusable crimes they would have committed.

If the states of the South desire a model or a pattern in the task of keeping their records clear of the blot of lynching, they need seek no further than North Carolina. Several years ago it was made apparent to those who entertained thoughts of taking the law into their own hands that they would do so at their own great risk. On more than one occasion the whole force of North Carolina's power was turned to the discovery, apprehension and punishment of the participants in a bit of mob violence. The offenders were hunted out, tried, convicted and sentenced. Furthermore, and fully as important, these lynchers were not relieved of their prison sentences by the action of a governor. It became an exceedingly perilous business to join a mob in North Carolina and there have been no mobs worth the mention since. In other words, the best people of North Carolina asserted themselves and demonstrated in practical fashion their horror and disgust and shame at lynching. The emotions felt by North Carolinians are the same as those of the vast majority of people in other states of the South, but they must be expressed in practical ways if they are to be properly effective as a curb to the terrible practices in question.

Star.
Concordia N. Y.

JAN 5 1928

Lynchings During 1927

The record of lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research is as follows: There were 16 persons lynched in 1927, 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, one less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924, and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923; 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law; six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails; four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings; eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers; 68 persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

WHITE HALL, ILL., REG-REPU
Friday, Jan. 13, 1928

Fewer Lynchings.

According to the annual report of the Tuskegee Institute, there were only 16 persons lynched in the United States during 1927. While this is the lowest number recorded in any year since records have been kept, except 1924, which showed the same number, it is 16 too many.

Still, when compared with the terrible record of 35 years ago, this report should give encouragement to all who are striving to remove the blot of lynch law from American civilization. To show briefly how lynching has decreased, a few figures will be of interest.

Lynching reached its most frightful height in 1892, when 255 persons were murdered by mobs. Of this number 100 were white and 155 colored. There were 115 lynched in 1900, 74 in 1910, 61 in 1920, 64 in 1921, 57 in 1922, 33 in 1923, 16 in 1924, 17 in 1925, 30 in 1926 and 16 in 1927.

During 1927 officers of the law protected 42 persons from mobs and in numerous other cases prisoners were removed to other jails as a precautionary measure. The record of law officers in this respect has shown much improvement in recent years. It is chiefly to the courage and determination of sheriffs and other officers that the lessening of the lynching evil is due.

HARRODSBURG KY. DEMOCRAT (wk)
JANUARY 3, 1928

Lynchings

The principal of Tuskegee Institute writes as follows:

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 23 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 19 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were—murder, 7! attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are are follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

Lynchings-1927
Reports on. Sent Press

Jan. - Dec.

2656

Winchester Tenn
Star - Truth - Ven
Jan 12 - 28

Houston Post

JANUARY 5, 1928

Record of Lynching In Year 1926

The following concerning lynchings for the past year is compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. There were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases [illegible] oners were removed or the guard[illegible] augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were —murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1

HOUSTON POST-DISPATCH ECHOES

FROM OUR EXCHANGES

Floggings and Lynchings.

(*From Montgomery Advertiser.*)

Alabama may have the worst record of all the States in the Union in the matter of mob violence, but when it comes to lynchings, Alabama's record is good. There was a time when the annual reports on lynchings showed Alabama in a disgraceful light, but in recent years the record in this respect has been such as to reflect credit on the State.

In view of this, the following editorial from The Houston Post-Dispatch should not be allowed to go unchallenged:

"Mob violence isn't tolerated in North Carolina. For this fact, North Carolina is standing out among the Southern States and is setting some of the others a needed example. Alabama, Mississippi and Georgia, tthe worst offenders in the realm of lynching, might very well take a leaf out of the book of the Old North State. In Goldsboro a few days ago an attempt was being made to take a negro from the court house, where he was being tried for a heinous offense. The provocation for mob action was strong. The local populace had become greatly inflamed over the dastardly crime. But when a crowd undertook to gain possession of the prisoner, the sheriff and his deputies surrounded him and protected him. In order to subdue the enraged mob, the sheriff fired several shots into the air. If necessary to repel the invaders he no doubt would have fired into their midst, for he was determined that the law should take its course. The mob was dispersed. The trial proceeded in orderly fashion. The prisoner was convicted and given the supreme penalty, of course."

The editorial has not gone unchallenged. Alabama and Georgia newspapers have called attention to the error of The Post-Dispatch in including these two States among "the worst offenders in the realm of lynching."

The Selma Times-Journal, for one, corrects The Post-Dispatch. Says the Times-Journal:

"The incident in North Carolina in which the mob failed to get its victim and the majesty of the law was upheld has occasioned much hearty praise, all of which is deserved, but The Post-Dispatch is in error in classing Alabama among "the worst offenders in the realm of lynching." Alabama has a record of immunity from lynching that is something to be proud of. The Tuskegee reports credit only one victim of mob violence to this State in the years 1926 and '25 and none in 1924. It is one of the best records achieved by any Southern commonwealth. Alabama mobs confine their activities to flogging and night-riding. In this particular the State enjoys a bad eminence second to none, but there is very little actual murder committed."

Speaking for Georgia, the Columbus Enquirer-Sun agrees with the Times-Journal in its comment, and goes on to say:

"Georgia, also, in recent years has a lynching record of which Georgians have a right, relatively speaking, to be proud. So far there has not been a lynching in 1928 and if we are proud of the record this year and in late years, it is because this form of murder was once rather common. It is still rather common, we believe, in Mississippi, Texas and Arkansas.

"One interesting phase of the flogging epidemic which has visited the South of late is that it seems to break out most virulently where lynching has been most reduced. Both Georgia and Alabama once furnished high quotas to the annual total of lynchings. Both within the last twenty-four months have furnished large complements of victims to the gentlemen who wield the lash. The brutal instincts of society's week-minded rabble, repressed in one direction by an aroused public opinion, burst forth in another. Yet it must be admitted that flogging is less permanent than lynching in its physical effects upon the victim. Perhaps here is progress toward decency. Decency will be achieved, at least outwardly, when public opinion makes the arm of society's law so strong and swift that no cowardly flogger—masked or unmasked —skulking by night will dare to run counter to it."

All that need be added to this is that the evil of flogging in Alabama and in other States is being put down just as lynching was by an enlightened public opinion, aroused to high indignation and resentment by such acts of brutality. Public opinion has made itself felt on the flogging question, just as it did on lynchings, with the result that the one evil is now going the way of the other.

(Wn) Bulletin
January 1, 1928

1927 [illegible]GS
FA[illegible] BE[illegible]W 1926

16 Negroes Are Taken By Mobs Against 30 During Year Previous

There were 16 lynchings in the United States during 1927, according to the figures compiled by the department of records and research of the Tuskegee Institute of Alabama. This is 14 less than 1926 when 30 persons were lynched, and with the exception of 1924 when there were also 16 lynchings, is less than any year since 1923.

There were 42 attempted lynchings, eight in the northern states and 34 in the southern states, in which officers of the law prevented any violence. In 18 cases, armed force was resorted to repel the lynchers while in the remainder of the cases, the prisoners were either removed or the guards augmented. A total of 68 persons, 15 whites and 53 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched in 1927 were negroes. Twelve of them were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers outside of jails. All the lynchings occurred in southern states. There were seven in Mississippi, three in Arkansas, two in Tennessee, and one each in Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas.

NEW YORK CITY WORLD
JANUARY 1, 1928

New York to Paris when they reachec the American metropolis.

16 LYNCHED IN NATION IN 1927, ALL NEGROES

Fourteen Less Than in 1926, Tuskegee Institute Reports—168 Saved by Officers

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala., Dec. 31.—According to a compilation by Tuskegee Institute, sixteen persons, all Negroes, were lynched in the United States in 1927—fourteen less than in 1926 and one less than in 1925. Seven were lynched in Mississippi, three in Arkansas, two in Tennessee, and one each in Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas.

The offenses charged were: Murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1. Fifty-three Negroes and fifteen whites were saved from lynchings in forty-two instances by officers of the law. Eight of these cases were in the North and thirty-four in the South. But twelve of those lynched were taken from officers, six of them from jails and six from officers outside jails.

COLUMBIA, TENN., DEMOCRA
Thursday, Jan. 12, 1928

FEWER LYNCHINGS SHOWN IN 1927

92

Tuskegee Institute Compiles Data On Nation-Wide Hangings; All Persons Lynched Were Negroes

Tuskegee Institute, Alabama,
December 31, 1927.

I am sending you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hand of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 o fthese cases the prisoners were removed or guards augmented of other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 51 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape 2; attempted rape, 3* improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi 7. Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas 1.

HOPKINSVILLE KY NEW ER
Monday, Jan. 2, 1928

16 Lynchings in the Year of 1927; 42 Are Prevented

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 2.—The following data concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research shows there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, and the same number 1* as for 1924, and 7 less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 8 of these were in Northern States and 34 in Southern States. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, 7; attempted murder 2, rape, 2, attempted rape 3, improper conduct 1, charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas 1.

COLUMBIA (S. C.) STATE
January 1, 1928

...EAR

...d Since 1924, According to Tuskegee Institute Data.

Tuskegee, Ala., Dec. 31 (By A. P.)—Sixteen persons, all Negroes, were lynched during 1927, it was announced today by Tuskegee institute on the basis of records compiled by the department of research and records. This compared with 30 in the previous year, 17 in 1925, 16 in 1924 and 33 in 1923.

Four of the victims were burned to death, the report said, and the bodies of two were burned after they had been put to death. Offenses with which they charged included murder, assault, attempted assault and improper conduct.

The report said that of those lynched, six were taken from jails and six seized from officers of the law outside jails. It added that there were 42 instances in which officers prevented lynchings, 34 in Southern states and eight in Northern states.

TIPTON IND., TRIBUNE
Tuesday, Jan. 3, 1928

Sixteen Lynchings Reported During 1927—All Negroes

Tuskegee, Ala., Jan. 3.—Sixteen persons were lynched in the United States in 1927, according to the department of records and research of Tuskegee Institute. This was fourteen less than he number for 1926, one less than the number for 1925, the same number as for 1924 and seventeen less than the number for 1923.

Twelve of those lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death and two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

All those lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

Ideal

PUEBLO COLO. CHIEFTAIN
JANUARY 6, 1928

Dr. R. R. Moton Holds Interview With President

Washington, D. C., Jan. 6.—Lynchings in the South are on the decrease President Coolidge was informed on December 22 by Dr. R. R. Moton president of Tuskegee Institute, at Tuskegee, Alabama.

Following an interview with Mr. Coolidge, Dr. Moton stated orally the President inquired of him particularly as to the situation regarding lynchings and mob violence in the Southern states. He reported to the President he said, that statistics would show fewer lynchings in the South this year than last, but an increase over the number three years ago.

Dr. Moton said also that he reported to the President on conditions at the government hospital for veterans at Tuskegee, which Mr. Coolidge dedicated. He said that the hospital is making satisfactory progress.

President Coolidge, in his recent annual message to congress, discussed the progress of the Negro race and recommended the enactment of legislation to put a stop to lynchings.

WAUKEGAN, IL., SUN
Saturday, Dec. 31, 1927

LYNCHINGS IN U. S. LESS IN '27 THAN YEAR BEFORE

Robert R. Morton, principal of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute at Tuskegee, Ala., sends out the following concerning lynchings for the last year as compiled by Tuskegee institute in the department of records and research. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death and two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: murder 7, attempted murder 2, rape 2, attempted rape 3, improper conduct 1, charge not reported 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas 3, Kentucky 1, Louisiana 1, Mississippi 7, Missouri 1, Tennessee 2, Texas 1.

WINFIELD KS. COURIER
JANUARY 2, 1928

Letters to Editor

(There was a marked decline in the number of lynchings during the year 1927 according to figures compiled by the Tuskegee Institute. The following letter from R. R. Morton the principal of Tuskegee gives the official data—Ed.)

Tuskegee Institute Alabama,
December 31, 1927.

Dear Sir:—

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. 12 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. 4 of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law preevnted lynchings. 8 of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. 68 persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were—murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas 1.

Yours very truly,
R. R. MOTON,
Principal.

KOKOMO IND. DISPATCH
Tuesday, Jan. 3, 1928

...ns Were ...ched In U. S. In '27,

There were sixteen persons lynched in 1927. This is fourteen less than the number thirty for 1926, one less than the number seventeen for 1925, the same number sixteen as for 1924, and seventeen less than the number thirty-three for 19923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, sixt from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four o the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were orty-two instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and thirty-four in southern states.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, three; Kentucky one; Louisiana, one; Mississippi, seven; Missouri, one; Tennessee, two; Texas, one.

Grand Rapids, Mich., Chronicle
...., Dec. 31, 1927

Sixteen Negroes Were Lynched in The Past Year

Sixteen persons were lynched in the United States during 1927, all of them Negroes, according to figures which have just been made public by Robert R. Moton, principal of Tuskogee Institute. All of the lynchings occurred in southern states, Mississippi being the greatest offender. Seven of the sixteen died in that state, three in Arkansas, while the great state of Tennessee was responsible for two. Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas are credited with one.

There were 30 lynchings in 1926 and 17 in 1925.

BIRMINGHAM (ALA) NEWS
January 1, 1928

LYNCHING REPORT SHOWS 16 VICTIMS

Mississippi Leads With Seven Negroes Killed By Mobs During Past Year

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Dec. 31.—Sixteen negroes were lynched in seven states in 1927, 14 less than in 1926, one less than in 1925, the same number in 1924 and 17 less than in 1923, according to figures compiled by the department of records and research of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, Robert R. Moton, principal, made public Saturday.

Twelve of the negroes lynched were taken from officers, six from jails and six from officers outside of jails. Four of the victims were burned to death and two were put to death and then their bodies burned, the report stated.

The offenses charged against the negroes lynched were: Murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; attack, 2; attempted attack, 3; improper conduct, 1 and one charge was not reported.

Lynchings were prevented 42 times, the report further stated, eight times in Northern states and 34 times in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed, the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In other instances armed force was employed to halt attempted lynching. The report reveals that 15 white and 53 negroes were, as a result of precaution taken, saved from the hands of lynching mobs.

Lynchings occurred in the following states: Arkansas 3, Kentucky 1, Louisiana 1, Mississippi 7, Missouri 1, Tennessee 2, and Texas 1.

Lynchings - 1927
Reports on, Sent Press.

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Jan. - Dec.

NEWS
BELOIT, WIS.

JAN 4 1928

LYNCHING DECLINE

PRESIDENT COOLIDGE in his annual message to congress took special cognizance of recent lynching crimes as a growing evil to be abated, if need be by federal legislation.

Repellant features of several particularly atrocious lynchings during the last year had led to an impression that 1927 would have an especially dark record for mob violence.

The record for such crimes as published for the year by Tuskegee Institute happily dispels some gloomy surmises. The total of 16 lynchings last year is 14 fewer than the total for 1926—though 1926 was an abnormally bad lynching year.

The 1927 record is fiendish enough, with its inclusion of the mob slayings of four persons by burning.

Yet it is encouraging to read that in 42 instances, 34 of them occurring in southern states, lynchings were frustrated through extraordinary courage or resourcefulness on the part of authorities charged with custody of the accused, thus saving lives of 68 persons to be dealt with by the formal processes of orderly justice.

Reinforcement of jail guards or strategic removal of prisoners from the scenes of aroused hostility were responsible for averting most of these lynchings. But in 18 cases armed force was called into play to disperse the mobs.

Where there is ordinary courage, and forethought, and determination on the part of sheriffs and jailors, it is demonstrable that lynchings can be averted. Where mobs have succeeded it has been frequently against only half-hearted resistance.

Leading citizens in that part of the country where lynchings are most prevalent deplore the disgrace of these affairs as much as other folk of rational and humane feelings do. Sentiment in local communities which increasingly frowns on this evil, coupled with the courage of capable guardians of the law, must probably be relied upon, rather than external federal interference, to keep the mob-beast in check.

The complete breakdown of judicial machinery in Alabama before an organized system of masked floggings is, to be sure, a currently discouraging symptom.

And yet in the neighboring state of Georgia not many months ago there was some offsetting encouragement in the almost unprecedented fact of a trial and conviction of a number of members of a lynching mob, who were duly sent to serve a term of years behind penitentiary bars for a crime that too often in the past has served ostensibly, under the stimulus of aroused mass emotions, as an atrocious sort of civic pastime.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., ADVERTISER
JANUARY 3, 1928

AN IMPROVED LYNCHING RECORD

Dr. Robert R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Institute, sends the press the annual report on lynchings as compiled by the Department of Records and Research at Tuskegee.

Naturally in examining this report we hastened to see what the cold figures showed for Alabama. Happily, and not at all to our surpdise, it is found that Alabama's record for the last 12 months is again clean. We had no lynching in this State in 1927. We have had none since 1925, we believe. And what is equally gratifying is that there were no lynchings in either of the Carolinas, nor in Georgia, nor in Virginia—all Southern States.

The record for the country is very much better than for 1926, though no better than for 1925.

It appears from the Tuskegee compilation that there weer 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 frpm officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern States and 34 in Southern States. "In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guard augmented or other precautions taken." In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs."

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were—murder 7, attempted murder 2, rape 4, attempted rape 3, improper conduct 1 charge not reported 1.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas 3, Kentucky 1, Louisiana 1, Mississippi 7, Missouri 7, Tennessee 1, Texas 1.

Southern newspaper editors are puzzled by the fact that the statistics of Tuskegee Institute and of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People are not in agreement. Tuskegee places the number of lynchings at 16 the National Association at 21. The Macon Telegraph and The Greensboro Daily News are curious to know the explanation of the discrepancy. For itself, The Advertiser prefers to accept Tuskegee's statistics, not because they are more favorable, but because the National Association is a propaganda society and as such is more militant than Tuskegee. Tuskegee's Department of Research seeks only information, the National Association is eager also to draw conclusions and make a point. We have always found the Tuskegee records to be reliable.

Special interest attaches to Georgia's clean record because it is unprecedented. The Georgia newspapers are elated over the fine showing of their State. The Columbus Enquirer-Sun, The Macon Telegraph and The Atlanta Constitution and others unite in celebrating.

Says The Telegraph:

> No matter what the difference is, neither agency was able to include Georgia among those States whose people had given themselves over to mob violence. Statistics do not run as far back as the days of Gen. Oglethorpe, but it is perhaps true that 1927 was the first year since the early days of the Georgia colony when there was no mob violence. The achievement is all the more significant when it is considered that during the year there was at least one case that would have certainly, in other days, provoked a lynching. That was the case in Jasper County when a negro assaulted a white woman. Not only were the few hoodlums who threatened violence promptly warned that to attempt it would mean trouble, but the feeling that emerged from that crime was one of friendliness for the responsible negroes of the community and the desire to protect them from that blind racial ill-feeling that attends such crimes and lynchings.

The Constitution is happy to report that "Georgia has at last been eliminated from the 'black list,' and it is hoped it has attained a position in this manner which it will always maintain."

The Houston Post-Dispatch thinks that the steady improvement in the lynching situation makes it unlikely that Congress will enact a Federal anti-lynching law. The Post-Dispatch in its editorial also pays special tribute to those officers of the law in the South who have done so much to check the mob spirit.

Officers of the law are said to have saved the lives of 68 persons, 15 of them white, in 1927. Says The Post-Dispatch:

> Suppose these sixty-five who were saved had been added to the sixteen who were done to death. That would have been eighty people slain by maniacal mobs in one year. What a ghastly and humiliating record that would have been for the Nation that poses as the most enlightened in the world. Could the rest of the world have been blamed had it pointed the finger of scorn at us?

The Greensboro Daily News looks at lynching statistics by ten-year periods, using Tuskegee records as authority. The number of lynchings in the last ten years is found to be as follows:

1927—16	1922—57
1926—30	1921—64
1925—17	1920—61
1924—16	1919—83
1923—33	1918—64

Commenting, The Daily News says that "back of 1918 the number increases irregularly to 100 in 1908, to 115 in 1900, to 200 in 1893. Over the long period from 1882 to the present the curve is downward. Within the ten-year period above it is obviously and sharply downward. Nineteen twenty-six is the exception, with its total of 30, partly explained by eight lynchings in Florida and seven in Texas, both of which are far above normal for these States. The high figure in Florida is generally attributed to unsettled conditions in the boom days, and the high figure in Texas is probably due to oil booms and the confusion they always cause. But the ten-year period shows the trend. It is unquestionably downward."

Further:

> The past year shows Mississippi with the worst record. That is normal. Seven lynchings there are more than twice as many as in any other State. Arkansas is credited with three, Tennessee with two, and Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas, with one each. That means that of the distinctly Southern States Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama and Oklahoma had none. Of these last North Carolina has had none since 1921, Oklahoma none since 1923 and Alabama none since 1925.

Over a ten-year period, 1918-1927, inclusive, the Southern States stand in this order, The Daily News finds:

Georgia, 81; Mississippi, 75; Texas, 63; Florida, 49; Arkansas, 35; Louisiana, 27; Alabama, 23; North Carolina and South Carolina, 13 each; Tennessee, 12; Kentucky, Oklahoma and Virginia, six each.

Or to extend the summary over the long period back to 1882, the number of lynchings in each Southern State is as follows:

Mississippi, 522; Georgia, 503; Texas, 469; Louisiana, 376; Alabama, 340; Arkansas, 291; Florida, 256; Tennessee, 241;

...edge of the facts holds that improvement in ... States, by those who were determined to decrease mob murders."

...like that is merely chance. It is caused in ... Georgia, as it has been caused in other ...

...period and the ... for instance, the average number murdered ... But by mobs in the five-year period of 1918- ... of the Far ... 1922 was 14. But in the succeeding five- ... a and Geor- ... year period, 1923-1927, the average per ... In Georgia ... year was two. Nobody with any knowl- ... The North Carolina newspaper concludes ... South States, notably Alabama and ... observing that "in essential respects the ...gia, have improved notably. In C...

FALL RIVER
MASSACHUSETTS
JAN 7 1928

LYNCHING BECOMING UNPOPULAR.

The figures showing the number of lynchings in this country in 1927 are not so strikingly less than those of recent years to indicate much change in regard to this kind of lawlessness. There were 16 such occurrences last year, about the same number as in 1924 and 1925, although considerably fewer than in 1926. It is a fair conclusion, however, that the figures do not tell a clear story about the trend of influence against violence of this nature. It is not long ago when the lynchings of negroes occasioned little public condemnation in the states where they were frequent. The law appeared indifferent, and whatever private sentiment may have existed against it carried no moving influence with the guardians of the law.

As an indication of the change in official attitude, lynching is forcibly condemned today in every state. A threat of such violence calls for measures for the protection of any suspect. Sheriffs become active to prevent mob action and, even if there may still at times be suspicions of the depth of their sincerity, they dare not risk the enlightened opinioin of their neighborhoods in failing to show an active interest in such manifestations.

There can be little hesitancy in concluding that the sense of outrage stirred by each manifestation of mob murder has struck at the foundations of the institution. Progress in suppressing it may vary as shown in the review of each year, but every indication points to a steady advance in the vindication of the law when mobs undertake to resort to the code so long recognized in many of the communities in the South.

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Dec. 31.—(AP)—Sixteen persons, all negroes, were lynched during 1927, it was announced Saturday by Tuskegee Institute on the basis of records compiled by its department of records and research. This compared with 30 in the previous year, 17 in 1924, and 33 in 1923.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each were listed as follows: Mississippi, 7; Arkansas, 3; Tennessee, 2; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

Four of the victims were burned to death, the report said, and the bodies of two were burned after they had been put to death. Offenses with which they were charged included murder, assault, attempted assault and improper conduct.

The report said that of those lynched, six were taken from jails and six seized from officers of the law outside jails. It added that there were 42 instances in which officers prevented lynchings, 34 in Southern states and 8 in Northern states.

Walterboro, S. C., Press.

JAN 4 1928 KNOXVILLE, TENN. Sentinel

Sixteen Persons Lynched In 1927

Tuskagee, Ala., Jan. —Sixteen persons all negroes, were lynched during 1927, it was announced today by Tuskegee Institute on the basis of record compiled by its department of research and records. This compared with 30 in the previous year, 17 in 1925, 16 in 1924 and 33 in 1923.

Four of the victims were burned to death, the report said, and the bodies of two were burned after they had been put to death. Offenses with which they were charged included murder, assault, attempted assault and improper conduct.

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JAN 3 1928

16 LYNCHINGS DURING 1927

All In South; Tennessee Third Highest; Mississippi First.

Special To The News-Sentinel

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala., Jan. 3.—Progress in the prevention of mob lynchings appears in the report on lynchings for 1927 compiled by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute for colored people.

The sudden flare-up of the lynching spirit that resulted in 30 lynchings in 1926 settled back to 16 for 1927. This, however, is merely a return to the normal of several years before. In 1923 there were 17, in 1924, 16, and in 1925 there were 17.

Four of those seized by mobs during the past year were burned to death. Two were burned after they were put to death. Twelve were seized after they had been apprehended by officers of the law—six taken from jails and six from officers outside the jails.

Tennessee was third among states in the number of lynchings, having two to its discredit. Mississippi led with 7, Arkansas 3, Kentucky, Louisiana, Misouri and Texas one each.

42 Preventions

There ware 42 instances in which officers of the law prewented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. In this way 68 persons, 15 white and 53 negroes were saved from death at the hands of the mob.

All of those who were lynched were negroes. Offences with which they were charged were: Murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; assault, 2; attempted assault, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

Durham, N. C. Sun

JAN 1 1928

New Low Lynching Record Established

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Dec. 31.—(INS) The United States established a new low record for lynching in the year just closed. A special report issued tonight by Tuskegee Institute records sixteen lynchings during the year—one less than the 1925 record. Lynchings in 1926 numbered 30.

All the 1927 victims were Negroes. Twelve were taken from the hands of the law by violence. Officers of the law prevented lynching in 42 instances, eight in the northern states and 34 in the south.

The number of lynchings by states: Mississippi, 7; Arkansas, 3; Tennessee, 2; Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas, one each.

COURIER
New Castle, Ind.
DEC 31 1927

A report prepared by Tuskegee Institute shows there were sixteen persons lynched in 1927. This is fourteen less than in 1926. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from other officers outside of the jails. All of the persons lynched were negroes and all of the lynchings were in southern states, Arkansas having three; Kentucky, one; Louisiana, one; Mississippi, seven; Missouri, one; Tennessee, two, and Texas, one.

TRIBUNE-TIMES
HORNELL, N. Y.
JAN 6 1928

LYNCHINGS

Sixteen lynchings stand forth as a blot upon the records of this nation during the past year. This is 14 less than the 30 of 1926, one less than in 1925, the same as the record for 1924 and 17 less than those who suffered in 1923.

Bad as the record is there is evidence that a definite effort is being made to wipe out this type of law violation. According to a report sent out by the research department of Tuskegee Institute, there were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Armed forces were called out to repel the would-be lynchers and the law was allowed to take its course.

Mississippi heads the list with seven lynchings, Arkansas three, Tennessee two and Louisiana, Missouri, Texas and Kentucky each one. But it is well to think that these very states are endeavoring to put down the evils of mob rule and guarantee every man a fair trial and justice.

Birmingham, Ala., News

JAN 1 1928

16 Lynchings In 1927 Equal Low Record Of 1924

EVE. RECORDER
AMSTERDAM, N. Y.
JAN 6 1928

Lynchings in 1927.

The following were the lynchings in the last year as compiled by Tuskegee institute in the department of records and research. There were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number, 30, for 1926, one less than the number, 17, for 1925, the same number, 16, for 1924, and 17 less than the number, 33, for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, six from jails and six from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, two were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in northern states and 34 in southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 negroes, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, 7; attempted murder, 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

Lynchings - 1927
Reports on Sent Press, Editorial Comments on..

2658

(From The Buffalo, N. Y., Courier-Express, Jan. 3, 1928.)

OUR LYNCHING RECORD.

According to figures compiled by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the number of lynchings in this country declined from 34 in 1926 to 21 in 1927.

So marked a decrease naturally encourages one to feel that we progressed considerably in civilization in the last year. But we can not have much to be really proud about until our lynching record has been brought much nearer to the vanishing point.

Of the 21 persons put to death by lynch law in the last twelve months, all but two were Negroes. Seven of the lynchings took place in Mississippi, three each in Tennessee and Arkansas, two in Florida and one each in Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri, North Carolina, Texas and California.

Doubtless the example of some Southern States, particularly Georgia, in bringing to justice members of mobs that take the law into their own hands, has been a potent influence against lynching. Perhaps even Mississippi in 1928 will be able to benefit from this example.

III.

(From The Baltimore, Md., Evening Sun, Dec. 30, 1927.)

MISSISSIPPI STILL LEADS.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has made public its survey of lynchings for the year 1927. According to these figures, there has been a decline to twenty-one from the thirty-four lynchings in 1926.

Geographically the lynchings cover a wide area. There was one each in Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri, North Carolina, Texas and California. There were two in Florida and three each in Tennessee and Arkansas.

It remained for Mississippi to prove what can be done when you put your mind to it. There the total number of lynchings is recorded as seven, or over twice as many as have been credited to her nearest competitors.

In lynchings Mississippi still leads.

IV.

(From The Norwich, Conn., Bulletin, Dec. 30, 1927.)

LYNCHING DECLINES.

According to records which have been kept by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People a decided change for the better has taken place during the year in regard to lynching. Where there were 34 cases in 1926 there have been but 21 in the present year. This is a movement in the right direction but whether it represents anything more than the swing of the pendulum from high one year to low the next is a question which time alone will answer.

Whether it represents such a change that it can be expected to continue or not, there is always cause for satifaction when such an improvement is shown. For some time a different attitude has been manifested in the lynching states. Some of the former leaders are conspicuous by their absence or their very low score. This represents a change for the better, a response to the better sentiment of such commonwealths and marks a decided contrast to former conditions and the situation which prevails in other states.

This year Mississippi is the leader in the lynching states with seven to its discredit. There a disregard for law has developed which is deplorable. If it isn't a lynching it is a flogging that places the state in disgrace before the rest of the nations and carries with it a reflection upon the whole country. Perhaps in time Mississippi will be brought to a realization of its grave mistake, even as Georgia was, but it is certain that it cannot come any too soon if the law of the state is going to amount to anything and that commonwealth expects to keep the respect of the others. Nothing spurs on the efforts for a national law against lynching more than the wholesale manner in which it is tolerated in Mississippi.

V.

(From The Columbia, S. C., Record, Jan. 3, 1928.)

21 LYNCHINGS TOO MANY.

A survey total just broadcast by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People on this New Year's Eve discloses that there has been a decrease in the number of lynchings in the United States from thirty-four in 1926 to twenty-one in 1927.

Seven men were lynched in Mississippi during the year just ended three each in Arkansas and Tennessee; two in Florida, and one each in Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri, North Carolina, Texas and California.

All but two of the victims were Negroes. While this showing is somewhat better than it was the year before it is still a national scandal. California alone is out of the Southern belt, or the nearby Southern border. The disclosure is a rebuke to the hypocrisy of the States which boast they stand for law and order.

VI.

(From The Dallas, Texas, Journal, Dec. 31, 1927.)

LYNCHING RECORD FOR THE YEAR.

The year just closing can die with a less burdened conscience in view of an improvement of the record of lynchings as compared to that of 1926. The report which has been made by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People shows that the number of lynchings this year was thenty-one as compared to thirty-four in the preceding year. That lesser number represents just twenty-one too many, however, and this nation will never wholly justify its claim of being civilized until the crime of lynching has been utterly stamped out.

Public opinion speaking through the justice-loving majority, has undoubtedly exerted great influence to prevent lynchings in the last few years. It has given sheriffs and members of the constabulary the courage to oppose the will of the mob, and a report of the cases in which officers have done their duty and mobs have been foiled would properly tie in with the report on the fewer lynchings of the year.

This same public opinion will become more assertive, now that it has been fully aroused by evidence that it has borne good fruit, and an even more appreciable reduction may be haped for from year to year until the lawless, nation-shaming practice has been stamped out for good.

Lynchings-1927
Reports on, Sent Press, Editorial Comments on.

2659

HERALD
AUGUSTA, GA.
JAN 8 1928

A CLEAN SLATE FOR GEORGIA

THE SOUTH-HATERS and critics of the South whenever a lynching occurs, take it as a sweet morsel and condemn the whole citizenship of the state in which the incident occurred. The record for the year 1927 shows a clean slate for Georgia and only 16 persons were lynched in the entire South. These figures are official, and were compiled by the research department of the Tuskegee Industrial Institute, in Alabama.

The persons lynched were all negroes. Seven states are represented in the list. Mississippi leads the other states with a total of seven, while Arkansas comes next with three, and two in Tennessee, while one each was lynched in Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas. The report is most illuminating and encouraging for the improvement of the citizenship. In 1926 only one lynching occurred in this state. Our people are growing stronger and stronger in their opposition to mob law and outbreaks of like character. Our people believe in the law and respect the courts. They believe that everyone should have a fair trial, and, if found guilty, then impose punishment in keeping with the crime committed.

One of the most encouraging features of the report made by the Tuskegee Institute is that in 42 instances mob law was prevented by action of constituted authorities of the law; 34 were in the South while eight were in the northern states.

In the past, court procedure and delays in enforcing the laws have been responsible for the outbreaks on the part of citizens in many instances. If such cases were tried without delay and the guilty parties convicted and forced to serve their sentences or pay the toll of their deeds with their lives, there would be fewer cases of lynchings. Long drawn out trials and miscarriage of justice has caused many lynchings, not only in the Southland, but in all sections of the nation. However, our people are growing saner and curbing their impulse to lynch on provocations other than for one crime. The crime of rape arouses our people to action of violating the law by enforcing the unwritten law. To their credit, however, cases of this character are growing fewer each year and with speedy action on the part of the courts, such outbreaks will cease.

Atlanta, Ga. JOURNAL
JAN 3 1928

Coming Down My Creek-
By Harry Stillwell Edwards

THE chill of winter extends as far as Havana, and it's all for the best. The breath of the festive camphor ball will have vanished from the Don's overcoat before the guest from Washington arrives.

After all, it's not so important as to whether or not 1927 was a failure. The vital question for each of us is—"Was I a success?" Nor need we worry greatly over the success of the coming year. Our individual problems are much more important.

* * *

It is comforting to find from the record kept at Tuskegee, that, so far as Georgia is concerned, in 1927 there was marked inactivity in the best lynching circles. For the first time since the great disturbance in the "sixties" a year has passed without a lynching.

* * *

Just how this is going to affect the prohibition issue can only be guessed at. It may be that people are really drinking less corn whisky than formerly, and are therefore less easily led into illegal actions. And again it may be that it is too expensive to fire up a crowd to the lynching point and hold them there until the obsequies have been completed. It costs money to drink liquor in these days. To lynch a colored gentleman who has offended your neighbor, and at the same time give away $12 whisky is a freehanded sort of patriotism few of us can afford.

* * *

And no lynching can be pulled off in this or in any other state without the aid of whisky. It's just as necessary as a rope, stake or gun. Of course, I have not attended all lynchings, even in Georgia—in fact, have witnessed but one, and as a prisoner at that—but when a man gets excited to the highest point, for some reason he craves a pacemaker for his racing pulse. He takes a drink, the drink takes a drink and the drink takes the man. Then the colored gentleman, usually guilty as charged, finds himself hanging up somewhere. And the Tuskegee bookkeeper adds to the record.

* * *

The funny thing about this improved lynching record is, that the newspaper philosophers attribute it to improvement in the white man's morality, to the exclusion of all other possible factors. Possibly the wave of emigration from the south into the north and west carried away most of the dangerous element, and we are having no lynchings in Georgia now because certain lynching crimes are not as frequent. And it is more than possible that the difficulty of getting any large amount of whisky, easily lessens crime. Every southerner knows that the crimes for which negroes suffer death in the south, are nearly always committed under the influence of whisky. People who tell you that there is not less drinking among the negroes now than under the old open-bar plan, simply do not know what they are talking about.

* * *

And if there are optimists in Georgia wild enough look forward to the return of whisky for public sale in this state, they are doomed to bitter disappointment. When the issue is clearly joined, as it will be some day, it is going to be put up to the white man that his choice lies between safety for his wife and daughters, and the gift of whisky to the ignorant, morally untrained negro. A thousand orators will take the stump in defense of the women, and not only will they win but they will bury politically forever, those who oppose them. There will never be need of discussion along any other line.

* * *

In the meantime it is rather delightful to reflect that we of Georgia are living in a lynchproof state, for the first time in the lives of several generations.

HOUSTON, TEX, DISP
JANUARY 8, 1928

* * *

SOUTHERN newspaper editors are puzzled by the fact that the statistics of Tuskegee institute and of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People are not in agreement. Tuskegee places the number of lynchings at 16, the National association at 21. The Macon Telegraph and the Greensboro Daily News are curious to know the explanation of the discrepancy. For itself, the Advertiser prefers to accept Tuskegee's statistics, not because they are more favorable, but because the National association is a propaganda society and as such is more militant than Tuskegee. Tuskegee's department of research seeks only information, the National association is eager also to draw conclusions and make a point. We have always found the Tuskegee records to be reliable.

Special interest attaches to Georgia's clean record because it is unprecedented. The Georgia newspapers are elated over the fine showing of their State. The Columbus Enquirer-Sun, the Macon Telegraph and the Atlanta Constitution and others unite in celebrating. Says the Telegraph:

No matter what the difference is, neither agency was able to include Georgia among those States whose people had given themselves over to mob violence. Statistics do not run as far back as the days of General Oglethorpe, but it is perhaps true that 1927 was the first year since the early days of the Georgia colony when there was no mob violence. The achievement is all the more significant when it is considered that during the year there was at least one case that would have certainly, in other days, provoked a lynching. That was the case in Jasper county when a negro assaulted a white woman. Not only were the few hoodlums who threatened violence promptly warned that to attempt it would mean trouble, but the feeling that emerged from that crime was one of friendliness for the responsible negroes of the community and the desire to protect them from that blind racial ill-feeling that attends such crimes and lynchings.

The Constitution is happy to report that "Georgia has at last been eliminated from the 'black list,' and it is hoped it has attained a position in this manner which it will always maintain."

Lynching on the Wane

THE Report annually issued by the Tuskegee Institute shows a marked decrease in the number of lynchings in 1927. Everywhere throughout the South, with the possible exception of those sections in which the Klan has destroyed the American form of government, there is an earnest desire to put down this cowardly form of murder. America

The statistics show that on the whole this desire has been efficacious. Public opinion has been aroused, and lynching in the South will soon be as rare as it is in Squam, New Hampshire. 1-14-28

Hence we trust that the various societies, drawing membership from both the white and colored races, will abandon their effort to abolish lynching by Federal legislation. Too much legislation is worse than too little. The State legislation now existing is sufficient, when enforced, and enforcement may now be fairly counted upon. From the constitutional point of view, the Dyer legislation is highly dubious. Indeed, our own opinion, stated when the bill was introduced, is that it contemplates an invasion upon the local police powers destructive of the principles of self-government which the Federal Constitution must protect and may not destroy. From the practical point of view, it is wholly probable that the methods established by the Dyer bill would seriously block the progress of the Negro which the intelligent South is anxious to promote. Ignorance and prejudice exist in the South as well as in the North. It is not good policy to arouse them needlessly. New York Sun

It seems to us that the associations working for the enactment of the Dyer bill can find a better field for the exercise of their talent and devotion. By tactful yet effective means they can strengthen the public opinion against lynching now fairly general in the South. They can support honest and fearless officials who are ready and eager to enforce the laws and to afford the protection of the State to the least of its citizens. And surely they will have a large field, larger, perhaps, in the North than in the South, if they undertake to create a more civilized and Christian attitude toward the Negro, and to arouse an intelligent sympathy for him in his progress toward higher standards of thought and life.

An enlightened public opinion, as forceful in the North as in the South, will do more for the colored race, in our judgment, than legislation, especially if that legislation emanates from Washington. The carpet-bag era—no fault of the Negro's—is still a bitter memory in the South.

HOUSTON, TEX., PRESS
JANUARY 14, 1928

Mr. Mitchell, who has been residing here for several years, is a graduate of Tuskegee Institute, Tuskegee, Alabama, completing both the literary and printing courses, majoring in linotype operation; while Mrs. Mitchell (nee Ola Mae Bragg), a former resident of Palestine, is a graduate of Bishop College and has been a member of the faculty at the Booker T. Washington High School of Houston for the past few years.

* * * *

Well, the old American Lynching League had somewhat of a dull and poor season during 1927—that is, compared to the records of preceding years.

The pennant winner of 1926—Florida—was displaced in 1927 by Mississippi, who, along with Georgia, has won more flags in Judge Lynch's loop than any other American or Dixie states.

A few years back Texas either copped the gonfalon in this mobocratic circuit, or ran the winners a close second or third, but thanks to an enlightened public conscience and the crystallization of sentiment against the lynching evil in some of the erstwhile banner communities (like Waco, Dallas, Teague, Paris and others) the Lone Star State entry in Judge Lynch's League has made a very sorry showing during the past two or three seasons.

If Texas continues to make headway in this direction (we are still referring to the decline in lynchings) both the mobocratic players, devotees, adherents and sympathizers will be compelled to remove to either Mississippi, Georgia, Arkansas or Florida—lynching teams which engage in a hectic race each year to cop the much coveted prize in Judge Lynch's (in)famous league.

The two agencies in this country which keep a record of all games played in the lynching loop, as usual, do not seem to be together: the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People of New York City, giving 21 decision games during 1927, while Tuskegee Institute's department of records and research, Tuskegee, Ala., only records 16 mobocratic outbreaks during last year.

Last week's issue carried the report and standing of the teams in the Lynching League as sent out by the Gotham society, while this issue has the standing of the league, both batting and fielding averages of all teams, as recorded at Tuskegee.

The N. A. A. C. P. report says 21; Tuskegee gives 16. There is a difference of 5 between the two reports. Readers, pick your choice!

* * * *

Speaking about the lynching evil, which seems to be on the decline as America's chief pastime, reminds us that federal anti-lynching legislation is again before the United States congress.

Perhaps some of the "grand old party" leaders think that the Dyer anti-lynching measure is a good political stroke for presidential election year, and that the "brother" will renew his allegiance to the Republican party for "submitting" and "proposing" such legislation, which has for its express object making America safe from the lynchers.

If this bill should pass both of the branches of congress and then should be signed by the chief executive of the republic, only to suffer the same fate as certain of our constitutional amendments to our basic law, then such measure would merely be a "scrap of paper."

Anyhow, while this columnist is not from the "Show Me" state, he is from Texas and you "can't steer" him.

All of the persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 7; attempted murder 2; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; improper conduct, 1; charge not reported, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 3; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 1.

Tuskegee Reports on Lynchings in 1927

THE following statistics concerning lynchings for the past year were compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research:

There were 16 persons lynched in 1927. This is 14 less than the number 30 for 1926, 1 less than the number 17 for 1925, the same number 16 as for 1924 and 17 less than the number 33 for 1923. Twelve of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails. Four of the persons were burned to death, 2 were put to death and then their bodies burned.

There were 42 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Eight of these were in Northern states and 34 in Southern states. In 24 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 18 other instances armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Sixty-eight persons, 15 white and 53 Negroes, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

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American Missionary. Feb. '28

How God Sometimes Speaks to His Children

By JENNIE WREN

ILLNESS, swift, sudden, terrible, had come to the mother of eight children, and she knew that but a step was between her and death. She felt no ecstasy and perhaps no fear, nor was there any thought of her past life; but for the sake of husband and children she felt that she must live. As if struggling on a steep mountainside, where at any moment she might lose her footing, and fall—down, down—she prayed, "Lord, establish my goings, set my feet upon a rock." Over and over did she make this prayer; then, too weak to pray, she lay calmly and let the words of the ninety-first Psalm glide softly through her brain: those wonderful words, "He that dwelleth in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. . . . There shall no evil befall thee. . . . Thou shalt not be afraid of the terror by night, nor of the arrow that flieth by day, nor of the pestilence which walketh at noonday. . . . Thou shalt tread on the lion and adder. . . . Because he hath set his love upon me therefore will I deliver him. He shall call upon me and I will answer him." And so on until there came these words: "With long life

Greensboro N.C.
Daily News
Jan 1/28

THE LYNCHING RECORD.

Two reports have been filed on lynchings in 1927. One is by Tuskegee institute department of records and research; it shows 16. The other is by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (headquarters in New York); it shows 21. The Federal Council of Churches keeps records on lynchings also, but no report for 1927 has been made yet.

The discrepancy between the Tuskegee and the National Association reports is not explained. The two frequently vary, although the present reports show a greater variation than any recalled. Nor is there any way easily available for checking on the accuracy of the two except by such doubt as is thrown on the National Association's report by its inclusion of one lynching in North Carolina in 1927. As the term is generally used there has been no lynching in this state since 1921.

The National Association gives Florida two lynchings which are not reported by Tuskegee, gives Tennessee one more than Tuskegee does and gives California one which Tuskegee does not report.

In as much as Tuskegee has records back to 1882 it is simpler to take the institute's 1927 figures for comparison. That is done here.

Those figures show the total number of lynchings in the last ten years to be as follows:

1927—16	1922—57
1926—30	1921—64
1925—17	1920—61
1924—16	1919—83
1923—33	1918—64

Back of 1918 the number increases irregularly to 100 in 1908, to 115 in 1900, to 200 in 1893. Over the long period from 1882 to the present the curve is downward. Within the ten-year period above it is obviously and sharply downward. Nineteen twenty-six is the exception, with its total of 30, partly explained by eight lynchings in Florida and seven in Texas, both of which are far above normal for those states. The high figure in Florida is generally attributed to unsettled conditions in the boom days, and the high figure in Texas is probably due to oil booms and the confusion they always cause. But the ten-year period shows the trend. It is unquestionably downward.

The past year shows Mississippi with the worst record. That is normal. Seven lynchings there are more than twice as many as in any other state. Arkansas is credited with three, Tennessee with two, and Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas with one each. That means that of the distinctly southern states Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, and Oklahoma had none. Of these last North Carolina has had none since 1921, Oklahoma none since 1923 and Alabama none since 1925.

Over a ten-year period, 1918-1927, inclusive, the southern states stand in this order:

Georgia, 81; Mississippi, 75; Texas, 63; Florida, 49; Arkansas, 35; Louisiana, 27; Alabama, 23; North Carolina and South Carolina, 13 each; Tennessee, 12; Kentucky, Oklahoma and Virginia, six each.

Or to extend the summary over the long period back to 1882 the number of lynchings in each southern state is as follows:

Mississippi, 522; Georgia, 503; Texas, 469; Louisiana, 376; Alabama, 340; Arkansas, 291; Florida, 256; Tennessee, 241; Kentucky, 212; South Carolina, 163; Oklahoma, 161; Virginia, 102; North Carolina, 91.

In essential respects the long period, the ten-year period and the last year's record are in agreement. But it is worth noting that some of the far south states, notably Alabama and Georgia, have improved notably. In Georgia, for instance, the average number murdered by mobs in the five-year period of 1918-1922 was 14. But in the succeeding five-year period, 1923-1927, the average per year was two. Nobody with any knowledge of the facts holds that improvement like that is merely chance. It is caused in Georgia, as it has been caused in other states, by those who were determined to decrease mob murders.

Greensboro N.C.
Daily News
Jan 7/28

FACTS SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES.

The old theory that the mobs of the south murder because the south is determined to keep its women from attacks by men ought by now to have been buried as deep as the bodies of the victims of mobs. But for all that has been done to the theory it shows an amazing vitality. It is still cited often as the reason why lynchings are more popular below the Mason and Dixon line than elsewhere. Behind this pretense of protecting womanhood, holding honor inviolate and preserving the home is the most reasonable defense that believers in mob rule can cite. They still do it, in the face of the fact that every study of lynchings shows the most frequent crime is not that against women.

The figures for 1927, announced by Tuskegee institute, tell the story again. Of the 16 lynchings the department of records and research of the institute has listed one is described as due to an unknown cause. Another is listed as caused by "improper conduct," which presumably might be a first step in a contemplated attack against a woman, although that is by no means sure. Three are attributed to attempted criminal assault, and two to criminal assault. Seven were due to murder and two more to attempted murder.

If the two instances of criminal assault, and three of attempted criminal assault and the one instance of "improper conduct" are combined, there are six lynchings under this classification. But beside that must be placed the nine lynchings attributed to murder and attempted murder and a tenth to an unknown cause.

There is nothing surprising in that report. Year after year Tuskegee has made reports closely similar to it. Every study of the actual events which infuriate men to mob action reveals virtually the same facts. Over the whole period during which records have been kept on lynchings the facts are the same. Murder always leads. Attacks on women are present, but always in the minority. The past year shows a slightly higher ratio than usual, but even so the full record shows that nearly 80 per cent of the lynchings are due to causes other than criminal assault.

These facts speak for themselves. They reduce to absurdity the plea that the south's women can be protected only by mob murder after an attack. If the records showed only those lynchings caused by this crime, the records would show only about one-fifth as many lynchings.

Lynchings-1927
Side Lights.

2660 Alabama.

NEGRO SUSPECTED OF ATTACKING GIRL

Anniston Police Holding Black Believed To Have Injured Florence Seaver

ANNISTON, ALA., Feb. 16.—Special to The Advertiser.—Suspected by officers of being implicated with the attack on Miss Florence Seaver, of Birmingham, daughter of Salvation Army officials, a negro, giving his name as Marian Cook, is being held here in the jail awaiting orders from Birmingham authorities. The negro was arrested Tuesday morning near the Southern Railway station in company with two other negroes.

Following the discovery of a notebook of a suspicious nature in the negro's possession, Sam Smith, chief of police, communicated with Birmingham authorities. The notebook has been forwarded to Birmingham and the local police will hold Cook until further word is received. Conflicting tales are said to have been told by the negro when he was questioned.

NEGRO RESISTS RETURN

James Blevins, Held For Alabama Authorities in Washington.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 23—(AP)—James Blevins, negro held here for Alabama authorities, has appealed to the District of Columbia supreme court for protection against what he terms the wrath of the Ku Klux Klan in that state.

He is suing for a writ of habeas corpus and attached to his petition is what purports to be a threat of punishment over the initials "KKK."

Charges pending against him in Alabama have not been made public although the alleged Klan letter mentions an "indebtedness."

Find Body of Lynched Bargeman Tied to Tree

Tuscaloosa, Ala., Feb. 11.—The body of Stewart Donald, an employe of the barge [illegible] Mississippi Warrior barge line, was recently found in the Warrior river, two miles below the Northport bridge. The man's neck was broken and he was bruised about the body, which was tied to a tree.

Officers of the barge claim that Donald fell from the boat during the recent high waters, but many of our people think that the man was murdered, as he was found tied to a tree with a badly bruised body.

DARROW GUARDED IN MOBILE

Circulars Charge He Incited Ill Feeling Between Negroes and Whites.

MOBILE, Ala., March 8 (AP).—Private detectives are said to have been guarding Clarence Darrow, Chicago criminal lawyer, on his appearance here following reports of ill feeling resulting from addresses made at negro industrial schools in the State last week.

Circulars distributed after the addresses charged Darrow with "inciting ill feeling between negroes and whites," and he was criticized by a minister. Darrow denied inciting ill feeling. He left yesterday for Chicago

D. C. COURTS TO PASS ON EXTRADITION

Expect Early Decision in Blevins Case

Washington, D. C., April 22.—The Blevins extradition case, which attracted considerable attention last winter, will within a very few weeks come up before the court of appeals of the District of Columbia. Prof. William H. Richards and Prof. Sylvester L. McLaurin, two distinguished members of the District of Columbia bar, for three months have held up the extradition of James Blevins to Birmingham, Ala., and have secured an appeal which will give Mr. Blevins and his Alabama friends an opportunity to marshal the evidence in his behalf.

Even if the appeal should be denied by the court of appeals, the fact that he would not be railroaded back to Alabama, but would have his day in court, would be itself a signal victory.

The facts are these: The latter part of last December James Blevins fled to Washington, D. C., claiming that he was driven out of Birmingham, Ala., by the Ku Klux Klan. He brought with him a note from the Klan giving him five days to straighten out his affairs and leave. The note read in part: "You name has been handed down to us as one of the meanest Negroes in Birmingham. Your chief occupation for the last 12 months has been pittering around and stealing and lying people out of their money and never paying it back. You have stolen all kinds of building material."

The invitation to leave was so pressing and urgent that Mr. Blevins left. But his Caucasian friends soon missed him and wanted him back. They located him in Washington and telegraphed Edwin H. Hesse, Washington superintendent of police, to arrest him and detain him for extradition for assault with intent to kill. Messrs. Richards and McLaurin sued out a writ of habeas corpus, causing Blevins' release from the police authorities the last week in January. Within 20 minutes after his release through the writ, Blevins was rearrested and placed in the custody of the marshal. His attorneys again sued out a writ of habeas corpus, and several hearings were held.

A legal battle began which was waged from the last week in January to the third week in February. The lower court decided against Richards and McLaurin in deference to the requisition papers of the governor of Alabama. But they noted an appeal in open court to the court of appeals of the District of Columbia. That court will probably hand down a decision the latter part of April or in May of this year. Whatever the final coutcome, Prof. Richards and Prof. McLaurin have established a valuable precedent. They have shown that in the District of Columbia a Race man has some rights under the law which the Ku Klux Klan of the South must respect and that he cannot be lassoed back to Alabama without being given an opportunity to present his case in court.

The case may ultimately be carried up to the supreme court of the United States, and before it is settled Blevins will get what he could not get in Alabama—his day in court.

ESCAPE MOB AFTER FIRING ON SHERIFFS

Farm Hand Trapped in Alabama Swamp

Lafayette, Ala., April 15.—With Sheriff John W. Lane and Deputy Sheriff A. Mormon expected to recover from wounds received Sunday when they attempted to arrest Bob Williams, farm hand, who was breaking up a church service, excitement here has somewhat subsided after one of the most hectic Sundays in the annals of the county.

Spirited Away

Williams is in the Lee county jail at Opelika for safe keeping. He was taken there late Sunday when a crowd of men demanded that he be turned over to them for punishment. Williams was slipped out a back door of the county jail while a heavy guard while men were at the front door demanding that he be given up.

Sheriff Lane and Deputy Mormon were shot about noon when they answered a trouble call from Stroud, three miles north of here. Church members complained that a "man was trying to break up their church services." When the officers arrived at the church, members of the congregation had Williams surrounded in the building and turned him over to the sheriff; they told officers who went to the scene later. As the sheriff took him out to his car, Williams pulled a gun from under his coat and fired it in the sheriff's face, they said. The sheriff fell and Williams ran. Deputy Mormon, who was some distance away, took up the chase, and as Williams entered a wooded swamp section, he turned and fired in the deputy's face, wounding his severely.

Caught In Swamp

Church members followed and surrounded Williams in the swamp. They called Lafayette for aid and Former Sheriff D. V. Simpson and a posse went to the scene, sent Lane and Mormon to a hospital in Five Points and captured Williams. The prisoner was brought to the Chambers county jail here and placed under heavy guard. A crowd gathered, incensed at the serious condition of the two officers, and demanded that Williams be turned over to them. Former Sheriff Simpson urged the men to "let the law take its course," and Williams was taken from the jail, placed in an automobile and speeded to Opelika.

DARROW IS ORDERED OUT OF 'BAM

After delivering a speech before a white audience in a Mobile theater, Clarence Darrow, noted Chicago attorney, caused a storm of resentment culminating with threats that he would be run out of Mobile.

"Lynchings and discriminations against the Negro are a disgrace to North and South alike," Darrow was quoted as saying. "In Chicago, St. Louis—even Springfield, the home of Abraham Lincoln—Negroes are accorded the same unjust treatment and the same horrible riots as occur here." A demonstration followed the meeting. The attorney also spoke before a Negro school at Harpersville, Ala., and is reported to have encouraged the Negroes to "defy your white masters."

Circulars purporting to be issued by the Klan and warning Darrow to "stop stirring up trouble in Mobile county," were distributed before the theater meeting, after which Darrow asked for and obtained the protection of county officers to escort him to his summer home in Fairhope.

Brother of Slain Man Shoots Negro Freed of Murder

TALLADEGA, ALA., June [illegible]—(AP)—Acquitted in circuit court here late today of the killing of W. D. Smelley, wealthy farmer, two years ago, Luke Ware, aged negro, was shot and critically wounded as he left the courthouse, by Chum Smelley, brother of the slain man.

The jury had just returned the verdict freeing Ware, and the negro was walking down the courthouse steps when Chum Smelley stepped up, fired two shots at the negro, walked into the sheriff's office and surrendered.

He is being held without bond, pending outcome of [illegible]'s wounds. Physicians at [illegible] where Ware was taken hold little hope for his recovery.

Birmingham Ala Herald

MAY 13 1927

Number Increases As No Trace Of Negro Man Is Found

EVERGREEN, Ala., May 12.—(Special.)—With each passing hour the posse searching the woods and lowlands for Oscar Burgess, negro farm hand, who shot and instantly killed E. J. Farrish, farmer, Sunday, after he had been captured a short time after he attempted to attack Farrish's 11-year-old daughter, continues to increase and public sentiment is also mounting. The negro overpower Farrish, who was en route with him to Evergreen to deliver him to the sheriff, and obtaining his gun, shot him in the head. He fell to the ground dead and the negro fled.

A posse was quickly organized and a systematized search started. The search has been underway since last Sunday night and today armed citizens and officers scoured the underbrush of the low country in the hope that the negro might be found in hiding.

Authorities are making every effort to find the negro. They declared that additional forces are being sent from several points in Munroe county to aid in the search.

NOTED LAWYER FORCED TO FLEE ALABAMA FOR SAFETY AFTER SPEECHES AGAINST LYNCHING

Mobile, Ga., March 11.—(Special)—Clarence Darrow, internationally known criminal lawyer of Chicago, champion of oppressed people, and advocate of free speech in America, was given an example of southern chivalry early this week when he was forced to leave a hall where he had spoken here, under protection of a squad of riflemen and special police. He was menaced by a mob and, although ill and in Alabama for his health, was compelled to leave hastily for Chattanooga, Tenn., where he will rest a few days before continuing his trip to his home in Chicago. Mr. Darrow's only crime was condemning lynchings and other inhuman practices for which Alabama is notorious. He spoke to two audiences—one composed of white people at the Lyric theater and one to members of our Race at a school. In both speeches he stressed the importance of mutual respect and co-operation, through tolerance, and less mob activity on the part of whites, and independence and backbone on the part of our people.

Clarence Darrow

Immediately following the address to whites he was rushed from the theater back to the home of his host at Fairhope, where he has been recuperating from a severe illness for several months, and was prevailed upon to board a train at noon Tuesday for the North. He was informed that if he remained in the state even the militia would be unable to make his stay safe. He was denounced from pulpit and by the press and described as a meddling trouble maker from Illinois.

It was during his Lyric theater speech that the first intimation of the temper of an Alabama mob expressed itself. Speaking to what he believed was an audience of the "best people of the South," he had just declared that lynchings "are a disgrace not only to the South but to the North and the entire United States." Suddenly there was a cry, "Lynch him!" But he continued his talk, ignoring the interruption, until it became impossible for him to continue. Then, as he started from the theater, the mob spirit became apparent. Women, children and others recognized in Mobile's business, professional and social world were conspicuous in the mob that followed him through the street to his car. Police with drawn weapons surrounded him and Mrs. Darrow, holding the mob at bay. As they passed through the crowd handbills signed by the Ku Klux Klan and denouncing him as an advocate of "social equality" were showered upon them.

Told Only Truth

In committing upon the affair before leaving Mobile, Mr. Darrow stated that he had told only the truth. He urged both races, he said, to work for a better understanding through the spirit of fairness and justice for all. In his speech at the school he is reported to have said in part:

"I can't help you; you will have to help yourselves; but I advise an attitute of defiance toward the white man who calls himself your 'friend.' How has he manifested his friendship?

"By hanging and burning you, by making you do his work and use his back door, refusing to let you enter the best hotels and use the best coach in the train, and making you sit in the rear of the street car.

"The only front place the white man has ever given you is in the battle line. There you can stop the bullets; but when you return home you can't use the sidewalks. You have to use the road. What can the Colored man do to help himself?

"I see you pray, but I don't see why. Your God must be a 'white' man, considering the way He treats you. No doubt there will be a 'Jim Crow' law in your heaven when you get there.

More Work—Less Songs

"You can sing. I heard you sing 'Sweet Land of Liberty,' but I don't see how you can. I don't sing it because I know it's not true.

"But you can work and gain a place for yourself if you can do better work than the white man. You are being recognized and you have some friends who are not afraid to sit at the table with you.

"I have done so, and even drank bootleg liquor with you; and in what better way can friendship be manifested?"

Clarence Darrow, who is about 65 years old, has long been known as a friend of our people. He takes the position that the white people of America are injured by the lynchings, peonage and segregation in the South as are the people discriminated against. He first aroused the enmity of the South in 1925, when he went to Dayton, Tenn., to defend John T. Scopes, a young schoolteacher, who was being tried for violating the Tennessee law against the teaching of evolution. In this case he opposed the late William Jennings Bryan, the idol of the South, who fought valiantly against evolution, but was never known to raise his voice against lynchings.

Darrow is also an opponent of capital punishment and has fought consistently against it. Our Race is the chief victim of this practice south of the Mason and Dixon line.

Birmingham, Ala., News MAY 12 1927

EVERGREEN POSSE FORCES INCREASED

Armed Men Roaming Woods In Search For Negro Who Killed Farmer

EVERGREEN, Ala., May 12.—Each hour finds more recruits joining the large force of men gathered in Evergreen for the stated purpose of "seeing justice done" when Oscar Burgess, 23, negro, slayer of E. N. Farrish, is captured. Feeling was running high Thursday, and fear of possible mob violence was expressed by representatives of the law.

Farrish, a widely known Belleville, Ala., farmer, was shot in the neck by a load of buckshot Sunday night while trying to hold the negro for law enforcement officers. Burgess, a negro farm hand, is alleged to have attempted to assault Farrish's 10-year-old daughter while she was drawing water at a nearby spring.

Monday and Tuesday armed men roamed the woods in the vicinity between Evergreen and Belleville, and Wednesday found the searchers redoubling their efforts. Notwithstanding their inability to catch the negro, new recruits to the evergrowing ranks of pursuers were being added Thursday.

If Burgess is not found by the sheriff and his posse, or other law enforcement officers, lynching is feared, authorities stated. Additional forces were being sent the officers from [illegible] section of Monroe County.

JEFFERSON POSSE SEEKS SLAYER AS SECOND GIVES UP

Scours Woods For Negro Who Killed Mine Foreman at Barbecue Stand While Intoxicated

D. W. MORGAN, 30, SHOOTS J. A. MARTIN TO DEATH

Victim Said To Have Raised Weapon As Though To Shoot Accused

BIRMINGHAM, Sept 11.—(AP)—D. W. Morgan, 30, was shot and killed tonight by J. A. Martin when the former, pistol in hand, was said to have raised his weapon as though to fire. Martin will be held pending grand jury action Tuesday.

Police reports said Morgan came to the residence of J. W. Hanson here, where in the presence of Martin and several young women he used vile and abusive language at the same time branishing a pistol.

When Morgan lifted the pistol as if to fire, Martin it was said, fired three times, one bullet taking effect in Morgan's h[illegible]

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., Sept. 11.—(AP)—Heavily armed posses were searching the woods in the eastern part of Jefferson county tonight for Jesse Branch, alias Russ, negro who shot and killed C. G. Robinson, 35, a mine foreman, this morning near Maxine.

Robinson was shot through the heart at a barbecue stand after an argument with the negro, who was said to have been intoxicated. After firing the fatal shot the negro fled into the hills and a posse was hastily organized and with blood hounds are making a desperate effort to capture the slayer.

Posses Seek Negroes Who Flogged Jack Gordon, Game Warden, Early Saturday

LIVINGSTON, ALA., Nov. 5.—Special to The Advertiser.—Three negroes, whose identity has been established, o[illegible] York, and [illegible] him to a tree and [illegible] most beat him to death [illegible] about 8 o'clock. Gordon is forest ranger and game warden on one of the preserves owned by the Allison Lumber Co., of Bellamy, and at the time he was flogged by the negroes was [illegible] miles from [illegible] York [illegible] for the [illegible] lynching is [illegible] W. T. [illegible] searching [illegible] that Gordon [illegible] ally hunting [illegible] them.

Lynchings- 1927
Side Lights.

Alabama.

2661

APPEAL FAILS TO SAVE MAN FROM ALABAMA POLICE

Will Be Returned To Stand Trial For Assault With Intent To Murder

WASHINGTON, D. C., Nov. 16—The Court of Appeals of the District of Columbia ruled Monday that James Blevins must return to Alabama and stand trial on a charge of assault with intent to commit murder.

Blevins was arrested upon a requisition from the governor of Alabama. A hearing was arranged before Chief Justice McCoy, who ordered Blevins turned over to the southern officials. A writ of habeas corpus was filed but denied. Then an apeal was taken, counsel for defense contending that five errors had been made.

The Ruling

The Court of Appeals held that it was not necessary for the indictment to state when the offense was committed, but that it is sufficient to show that the fugitive has been charged with crime in the state from which he fled.

The question of whether an offense is extraditable, the court held, is not open to inquiry in habeas corpus proceedings. Counsel for Blevins had contended that he was not guilty of an extraditable offense.

The court dismissed the contention that the indictment was a part of a conspiracy to collect a debt. It held that the question of whether the proceedings were instituted by improper motives will not be considered in habeas corpus proceedings.

The claim that the indictment is invalid because the grand jury that returned it was composed of white men only, must be addressed to the court of the jurisdiction in wihch the indictment was found, the Court of Appeals held.

The court declared that there is nothing in the record to indicate that Blevins will not be accorded his constitutional rights when brought to trial. Counsel for Blevins contended that Chief Justice McCoy should have held that prejudice against colored people in Alabama is so great that Blevins would not be accorded a fair trial if returned to the state.

BLEVINS CASE IN THE COURTS OF APPEALS

Birmingham Carpenter Who Defended Home Fights Extradition

ALABAMA SEEKS TO HAVE HIM RETURNED

Can't Get A Fair Trial Is His Plea. State Bans All Colored Jurors

WASHINGTON—The third of the present cases of defense against extradition proceedings brought by a Southern State, is now being bitterly contested in Washington. D. C., by attorneys for the Washington Branch of the N. A. A. C. P.

The case is being defended by Sylvester H. M. McLaurin and Prof Wm. H. Richards, attorneys. The facts as reported to the National office of the N. A. A. C. P. are as follows:

James Blevins, an industrious and thrifty carpenter, with a wife and two children, living in the Klan-ridden city of Birmingham, Ala., incurred the enmity of the Klan element and was ordered to leave town. He had done some work on a white man's house and been paid $100. A storm destroyed it and Blevins was asked to do it over or refund the $100.

On June 1, 1926, on the letterhead of one Robert E. Lee. a white man, a letter was written to Blevins ordering him to leave town for good. When Blevins failed to go, James and Ben Dorrough, went to his home and demanded $100. When Blevins hesitated, they cursed him and demanded the deed and title papers to his property. Before he could act on their request they began shooting at him. He retaliated with one shot from a shotgun. The two white men wrecked Blevins' store, dragged him outdoors, beat him over the head with pistols and kicked him, leaving him unconscious. After treatment by a physician and when he had recovered sufficiently, Blevins drove in a small car from Birmingham to Washington.

Extradition papers issued by the Governor of Alabama, brought by a deputy marshal from Birmingham to Washington were served, but N. H. Thomas, president of the ington (D. C.) Bra

A. C. P., to whose attention the case had been brought, referred him to the attorney for the branch, Mr. McLaurin, who associated with himself Prof. Richards.

COURT OF APPEALS

In the course of the legal battle Blevins has been set free and re-arrested, and appeal in the case has been taken to the Court of Appeals of the District of Columbia where it is to be argued in October or November. The case will be carried before the Supreme Court of the United States if necessary.

The brief in behalf of Blevins, alleges that his detention is illegal and invalid on the ground that: (1) it does not set forth the date on which the alleged crime was committed; (2) that the indictment against Blevins was found by a grand jury from which Negroes were excluded, Negroes being excluded from jury service "designedly' systematically, and as part of the race policy of the State of Alabama, contrary to law", (3) that the indictment does not, as required by law, set out an extraditable defense; (4) "Because the State of Alabama and its courts are so dominated by the Ku Klux Klan that a Negro who has been indicted in the state for assault upon a white man is denied a fair and impartial trial and to deliver your petitioneer to the State of Alabama is to deny him due process of law and the equal protection of the laws."

Lynchings-1927
Side Lights

Arkansas.

2662

TWO ARE KILLED IN POSSE FIGHT

Camden, Ark., January 26.—(AP)—Two men are dead and three are wounded as the result of a pitched battle between a sheriff's posse and an alleged moonshiner near here last night.

Deputy Sheriff Zach Horton and Paul Stanley, whose place of abode was being raided, are dead. Sheriff Arthur Ellis, Jack Lewis, whose standing in the raiding party is not definitely established, and F. D. Deering, of Louann, Ark., a bystander, are wounded.

Witnesses to the battle declared Stanley had been "tipped off" that a raid was to be staged on the tent in which he lived. His wife and their 20-year-old daughter lived in an adjoining tent, it was said, and Stanley was lying in ambush waiting for the officers to show up.

When Deputy Horton approached, it was declared, Stanley deliberately

POSSES HUNT NEGRO.

Desperado Who Shot City Marshal Not Yet Apprehended.

DERMOTT, Ark., March 21.—Bud Foster, negro, who yesterday shot and killed City Night Marshal Walter Head, of Dermott, had not been captured late this evening although a diligent search had been made by armed posses of Chicot and Desha counties in the cold rain that fell most of the day.

Reports that the negro had been seen early last night and this morning had not been confirmed. The place where he was thought to have been hiding is a dense thicket which is mostly covered by water caused from incessant rains in this section.

It was learned today that Foster had been out of the state penitentiary only a short time, having served a sentence for burning a barn. Armed posses are still guarding all highways with hopes of apprehending him.

Funeral services for Night Marshal Head will be held tomorrow afternoon at 2 p.m., conducted by Rev. B. F. Roebuck of the Methodist Church, assisted by other pastors. Interment will be in Dermott Cemetery.

Ark. Posse Returns After Killing Suspect

By International News Service.

HELENA, Ark., June 9.—A posse which last night shot to death Owen Fleming, negro, slayer of Roy Walters, 28, white farmer, here yesterday, was returning from the woods near this city today.

The white farmer was shot by the negro refugee yesterday when he went to investigate a report that the negro was ill. Fleeing into the woods, the slayer was pursued and slain last night by a posse of citizens who reported the negro fired upon them.

MOB OF 200 SEEKS ATTACKER OF GIRL

Camden, Ark., July 8.—(AP)—More than 200 men joined today in search for a negro who attacked a 12-year-old white girl in the outskirts of Camden this morning. In the posse are nearly all employees of a paper mill here, where the father of the girl is employed. The girl was struck by the negro with [illegible] but was not seriously injured.

ARKANSAS MOB SEEKS ANOTHER BLACK MAN

(By the Associated Negro Press.)

Little Rock, Ark.—The lynching epidemic, which had its genesis when a mob sought to lynch Lonnie Dixon, accused of murdering a white girl, broke out anew here Wednesday when a mob of some two hundred men seized the rifles with which they had snuffed out the life of John Carter and terrorized Negroes throughout the city a few weeks ago, searched every probably hiding place for an unknown Negro who was supposed to have struck down and attempted to assault a white woman Tuesday afternoon.

The woman reported that a Negro had attacked her while she was picking flowers in a strip of woods near her home Tuesday afternoon. As the report was circulated, the thirst for blood grew more acute and the mob formed for the purpose of "aiding the officers in their search." Bloodhounds were brought from Hot Springs but the rains during the evening rendered them useless. The human bloodhounds, however, took up the scent, but, like their canine brothers, had to give up the task.

The officers, according to reports, were inclined to doubt the woman's story, saying she had given more than one version of the affair. But it was further reported that a man answering the description had been arrested but the officers were afraid to take the prisoner before the woman for positive identification, fearing mob violence.

Thus another chapter is being written in Little Rock's "reign of terror" which has resulted in the lynching of one Negro, the driving away of others and alleged plans of a wholesale exodus of Negroes from the city.

Lynchings-1927
Side Lights

California.

2663

NEGRO "MURDERER IS WHITE MAN"

Los Angeles, Cal., Feb. 12.—(ANP) On December 5, 1926, Jacob Dietrich, wealthy nurseman, was murdered, at his nursery while in company with Mrs. Margaret Allen, at whose home a drinking party was in progress. On being found beside his body Mrs. Allen told a wild tale of a Negro leading two Mexicans in an attack on her companion, crushing his skull, with a flower pot then assailing her. For a time the story was believed and search was made for the Negro, to no avail, but later developments threw suspicion on the husband of Mrs. Allen who had heretofore corroborated the story of his wife that the Negro had murdered their friend. Accordingly he has been arrested and she held as material witness.

California Citizens Protest Extradition

LOS ANGELES, Cal., Sept. 29.—(A. N. P.)—Representative Negro citizens from here and Oakland, Cal., appeared before Governor Young at the State Capital, Sacramento, to protest the extradition of Edward Glass in jail at Oakland.

Glass successfully defended himself in Oaklahoma, five years ago, against a mob bent on lynching him. He escaped and made his way to Oakland, where he has been living since, until recently when he was recognized and exposed to the authorities by a former Oklahoma acquaintance.

GAZETTE
Berkeley - Cal.
SEP 14 1927

NEGRO IN FEAR OF LYNCHING TO BE EXTRADITED

(United Press)

SACRAMENTO, Sept. 14.—Despite fears that he will be lynched as soon as he reaches Oklahoma, Ed Glass, negro under arrest in Oakland and wanted at Sapulpa, Okla., for murder, is to be returned under extradition granted by Governor Young, it was learned at the Governor's office today.

Lastminute personal interviews were granted by the Governor to John D. Drake of Oakland, attorney for Glass, and representative of the National Association for the Advancement of Negroes.

"If you grant this extradition you will be sealing this man's death warrant," Drake told the Governor. "Oklahoma has a record of three lunchings every two years."

The Governor is granting the requisition of the governor of Oklahoma upon that executive's promise that every safeguard and protection will be given the prisoner upon his return to the state, and confinement in the jail at Sapulpa.

Glass, formerly a wealthy hotel, restaurant, undertaking parlor and real estate owner in Sapulpa, escaped from the city in 1923 after a white policeman had been murdered. Sentiment was so strong against Glass that one of his business houses and seven residences were burned.

He sought refuge in California, and in 1926, three years after the crime was committed, he was indicted for the alleged murder and his extradition sought. He is now in the restaurant business in Oakland.

The extradition hearing, before Keith Carlin, the Governor's executive secretary, was attended by a large delegation of Oakland and San Francisco negroes.

Grand Jury Called at Once.

Special to The New York Times.

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 22.—Immediately upon word that William Edward Hickman, accused of the kidnapping and murder of Marian Parker, had been arrested at Echo, Oregon, the Grand Jury of Los Angeles County was convened for a special session at 7:30 o'clock tonight to indict him.

George Contreras, chief of detectives assigned to the District Attorney's office here, took off in an airplane for Seattle early this morning. Messages sent to overtake him directed Contreras to change his destination from Seattle where Hickman was first sighted last night, to Kent, Wash., and this morning to Pendleton, Ore. Detective Lieutenants H. G. Taylor and E. M. Hamren accompanied Contreras to guard Hickman on his return trip to Los Angeles.

Detective Chief Hermans Cline, who has been in charge of the seven-day search for Marian Parker's kidnapper, said extradition papers would be picked up by the officers at Sacramento, where Governor Young promised to have them by the time the police airplane arrived.

An extra guard will be assigned to bring Hickman back, Chief Cline said, to protect him against the threat of lynching. Lynching has become a menace actively considered by the Los Angeles authorities since the hanging in the city jail last night of a robber suspect, Ralph McCoy, who had been placed in a cell with other prisoners. All the prisoners were being questioned today, and the inquest has not yet returned a verdict as to whether McCoy strangled himself with his necktie or was the victim of violence.

When caught in a chase through downtown streets yesterday, a mob tore McCoy's clothing and cuffed him about when some one set up the cry that the prisoner was Hickman. McCoy did not look at all like Hickman.

Man Believed Hickman Slain By Prisoners

Beaten to Death by Inmates Of City Jail, Surgeon Reports.

Los Angeles, December 21.—(United News.)—Believed by fellow prisoners to be Edward Hickman, suspected kidnaper and mutilator of little Marion Parker, a youth who gave the name of Ralph McCoy, held on a theft charge was set upon and beaten to death in city jail tonight, according to results of a preliminary examination conducted by Police Surgeon Jack Renfro.

McCoy's body was suspended by a scarf from a beam in the tank to make it appear that he had taken his own life, it was said. He was held on a suspicion of robbery charge.

A short time before his body was found police had, investigating him, rescued McCoy from an infuriated mob which also suspected him of being Hickman.

McCoy was charged with the hold-up of the clothing store of Dave Moss. He was said to have grabbed $90 from the cash register and then dashed down the street.

Moss gave chase and was joined by passersby, who thought they were pursuing "the Fox" and who wanted to be in on "the kill."

Only the drawn gun of a traffic officer and the quick response of a riot squad saved the youth then. As it was, most of his clothing was torn from his back.

Less than an hour after he was placed in the "tank" he was found dead.

Lynchings-1927
Side Lights.

Delaware

2664

Negro Slayer Trapped in Swamp and Killed by Posse

Dover, Del., June 3. (AP)—Surrounded today in a swamp near here, Samuel Jones, Negro, who killed his niece and wounded two members of her family Tuesday, was shot and killed by a posse.

Delaware Posse Kills Negro Slayer.

DOVER, Del., June 3 (AP).—Surrounded in his hiding place today in a swamp near here, Samuel Jones, a negro, who killed his niece and wounded two members of her family Tuesday, was shot and killed by a posse. The posse was armed and well supplied with ammunition. Jones committed the murder after escaping from the local jail, where he was serving sentence for carrying a pistol.

Florida.

2665

Lynchings - 1927
Side Lights

SEMINOLES HANG MEDICINE MAN FOR SLAYING PAL

Asks Death Rather than Banishment from Tribe.

Miami, Fla., Feb. 2.—(AP)—In the wilderness of the Everglades, Indian justice once more has meted out the death penalty to a Seminole slayer. It was preferred by the condemned man to banishment from the tribe.

Out of the vast expanse of swamp and saw grass, Indian braves of the Mesa Isle camp today bore a fragmentary tale of the trial and execution. Dr. John, venerable medicine man of the tribe, has been executed for killing Little Billie at a redskin celebration in Big Cypress Swamp. The ancient code of "an eye for an eye" has been invoked. The medicine man has disappeared.

Slew While Drunk.

Dr. John, so the story went, heard the call of the tocsin heralding the first jubilee of the tribe since the gala marriage festival of Chief Tony Tommy and Edna John Osceola in June. While the braves and their squaws danced and sang, Dr. John drank too deeply of "wyomee," the strong intoxicant of the people. In a drunken flash of temper he clubbed to death his friend and companion, Little Billie. In the early morning hours the body was found, and Dr. John was missing. For weeks he was hunted and finally tracked to his hiding place.

Chooses Death Sentence.

The council of elders dictated the terms of death or a lengthy banishment in a distant tribe, and the slayer chose the former alternative.

The doomed man was sentenced to die after the hunting and planting season in spring, but his solitary confinement in a secluded palmetto hut had so sapped his strength that the elders moved forward the date of execution rather than risk a natural death. Rumors spread that Dr. John had been hanged, but the traditional silence of the Seminole prevails and the secret is guarded.

MOB VIOLENCE FEARED ON COLLINS AT MIAMI

Was Returned Yesterday on Double Murder Charge.

Mob violence was feared in the returning of Clayton H. Collins, 36, who was held here on a double murder charge and who left Memphis for Miami, Fla., yesterday morning at 8 o'clock, it was learned last night.

The exact time of Collins' departure could not be learned Saturday night. Police could only say that he was to leave Sunday morning. He was to leave Saturday night at 9:35 o'clock in the custody of Officer C. B. Cane of Miami. Cane left Memphis yesterday morning with Collins.

When asked why the exact time of Collins' departure had been kept a secret, Detective Inspector Will T. Griffin said last night that Miami officers feared mob violence.

"They were afraid a mob would meet the train and take Collins from them," he said. "I understand feeling is high at Miami, and this was probably the reason Officer Cane was undecided as to when he would leave.

"He at first was to leave at 9:35 o'clock Saturday night and then changed his plans."

Collins was arrested here a week ago on suspicion. Soon after he was in custody he voluntarily confessed he had shot and killed Edward Nevers of Miami.

Miami police accuse Collins of killin gboth Nevers and his wife. Both were murdered with an ax, they say. Collins maintains he slew Nevers with his pistol and declares Nevers killed Mrs. Nevers.

Clearwater, Fla., Sun

SEP 1 1927

NEGRO ELUDES POSSE

TALLAHASSEE, Sept. 1.— (By the Associated Press).—Onnie Padlock, negro, being sought by a posse of this section for the slaying of Seborn W. Byrd, turpentine camp foreman, near Arrana, Tuesday night, was surrounded at Newport last night, but again eluded pursuers after several shots had been fired at him, according to advices reaching here today. Byrd was fatally wounded and died shortly after the shooting, which occurred on the turpentine farm where both he and the negro were employed.

Georgia.

Lynchings-1927
Side Lights.

Noose Dangles in Pulpit

A crowd of 1,500 packed every available inch of space in Bellwood Baptist Church last Sunday night while the pastor, the Rev. W. N. Pruitt, preached on "Crime" as a noose dangled menacingly about the head of a youthful man in the pulpit who volunteered to fill the none too cheerful role of the doomed. The youth is Frank McDaniel, and the pastor is standing in the rear.

NEGRO CONFIRMS KILLING CHARGE

One of Trio Held For Murdering Man and Attacking iWfe Corroborates Latter

MACON, GA., July 25.—(AP)—William Rountree, one of three negroes held in the Bibb county jail here in connection with the slaying of W. T. Andrews near Milan, corroborated Mrs. Andrews' version of the crime in a confession late today to county officers.

In his confession, Rountree laid responsibility for the crime on Wilbur Galloway. Mrs. Andrews has positively identified Galloway as the man who shot her husband from the back seat of their automobile. She said after her husband had been slain and robbed of $125, she was thrown from the car and after being attacked, was shot, the bullet penetrating her mouth.

Rountree in his confession said that while he was with Galloway he had no part in the crime. He said Galloway promised him $50 of the money taken from Andrews but did not give it to him.

Mose Banks, the third negro in custody, had no part in the crime, Galloway said. Banks was arrested when found in company with Galloway and Rountree yesterday.

Mrs. Andrews today was reported recovering in an Eastman hospital following an operation this morning for removal of a bullet from her neck. Unless unforeseen complications appear she will be discharged from the institution within ten days, medical attendants said.

Trailing dogs were sent from Chatham county, but were unsuccessful in following the trail, which had become cold.

The posse was headed by J. E. McTeer, sheriff of Beaufort county.

NEGROES KILL GEORGIAN

Wife, En Route to Father's Bedside, Is Attacked.

MILAN, Ga., July 24.—(AP)—W. T. Andrews, prominent resident of Alamo, was slain and his wife attacked and then shot down by three negroes near here today.

Three negroes shortly afterward were taken in custody by a posse headed by Sheriff C. N. Mullis and were taken to Macon for safe keeping following reports that a mob estimated to number 1,000 men had gathered near the scene of the crime. The negroes gave their names as Wilmar Galloway, whom Mrs. Andrews has identified as the slayer of her husband, William Rountree and Mose Banks.

Mrs. Andrews, who was shot through the mouth, was taken to a hospital at Eastman, where she told officers she and her husband were en route to the bedside of her father in Perry, Fla., where he is critically ill. She said near Milan they stopped the car to fill the radiator and there picked up two negroes who asked for a ride as far as their dwelling.

Reaching the place where the negroes said they lived, Mrs. Andrews said Galloway, who occupied the back seat of the car, fired point blank at her husband, killing him instantly. She said she then was thrown out of the car, attacked, soht and left by the body of her husband, which had fallen out of the car. She said she regained consciousness and made her way to a farm house, where the sheriff was summoned.

Mrs. Andrews is 20 years old.

Sheriff Mullis said he came upon the negroes in a small house near the scene of the crime. Galloway and Rountree were identified by Mrs. Andrews, the former as the slayer of her husband and the latter as the negro who sat on the running board of the car and aided Galloway in robbing her husband of $125. Banks was arrested when found in their company.

negro who killed her husband, robbed the body, then attacked her and shot her through the mouth, early yesterday near Silah, Wilmer Calloway was in Bibb County jail here today. Galloway said two other negroes were brought here last night from McRae where a mob of 1,000 had prepared to storm the Telfair County jail. Mrs. Andrews was in an Eastman, Ga., hospital in a critical condition.

The three negroes were arested in a shack about a mile from the scene shortly after word of the crime was received by authorities. One of the negroes had smeared his hands and feet with tar, which Sheriff C. N. Mullis sad was indicative that the negro was preparing for flight, as the tar smearing method often was used by fugitives to throw bloodhounds off the scent in case they were followed.

Mr. and Mrs. Andrews, prominent young residents of Alamo, Ga., were en route to Perry, Fla., where Mrs. Andrew's father was reported dying. Near Milan they stopped at a roadside filling station for water. Two negroes approached and asked for a ride to their "shanty" just a "short piece up the road," without awaiting permission. Mrs. Andrews told authorities, one of the negroes got into the back seat of their automobile and the other stood on the running board.

When the "shanty" was reached, the negroes refused to get out and one, whom Mrs. Andrews identified later as Galloway, reached over with a pistol in his hand and shot Mr. Andrews through the head. As her husband's body rolled to tne ground, the same negro removing $150 from Mr. Andrew's pockets, forced Mrs. Andrews from the car, threw her to the ground and a few moments later as she struggled to arise, shot her through the mouth. Mrs. Andrews fell unconscious and the negroes fled, aparently believing she, too was dead.

Mob Ga. Commissioner Who Advocated Race Police

COLUMBUS, Ga. — Because they advocated colored policemen when white officers failed to prevent a lynching, members of the city commission of Columbus, Ga., were beaten up unmercifully here several days ago.

The court house wall is still full of the bullet holes made when a lone white jailer gave his life to protect a negro prisoner while police officers failed to show up.

POSSE HUNTS NEGRO ON ASSAULT CHARGE

Savannah, Ga., July 9.—(AP)—A voluntary posse, drawing its members from the entire county, scoured the woods and swamps two miles north of Hardeeville, S. C., today and tonight in search of an unknown negro, said to have criminally assaulted the wife of one of the employees of a nearby sawmill. Hardeeville is 25 miles from Savannah and just across the state line.

WIFE IDENTIFIES NEGRO WHO KILLED HUSBAND

Mrs. Andrews in Critical Condition From Fiend's Attack.

By the Associated Press.

MACON, Ga., July 25.—Identified by Mrs. W. T. Andrews, 20, as the

GEORGIA MAN SLAIN AND WIFE ATTACKED BY THREE NEGROES

Were En Route to Bedside of Woman's Father Who is Critically Ill at His Home in Florida

PICKED UP ASSAILANTS WHEN ASKED FOR RIDE

ing Victim Shot Through

uth and Left by Body of Husband Near Auto

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Reaching the place where the negroes said they lived, Mrs. Andrews said Galloway, who occupied the back seat of the car, fired point blank at her husband, killing him instantly. She said she then was thrown out of the car, attacked, shot and left by the body of her husband which had fallen out of the car. She said she regained consciousness and made her way to a farmhouse where the sheriff was summoned.

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ALAMO CITIZEN SLAIN, WIFE HURT, 3 NEGROES HELD

Woman Says She Was Shot After Husband Was Killed by Men They Had Given Lift in Car.

Macon, Ga., July 24.—(AP)—Threatened by a mob, three Telfair county negroes were brought to the Bibb county jail here today, charged with the murder of W. T. Andrews, prominent citizen of Alamo, and probably fatally wounding his wife early this morning in Dodge county.

The tragedy occurred a short distance west of Milan, just across the Telfair county line at about 3 o'clock in the morning, according to reports here. Mr. and Mrs. Andrews were on their way to Perry, Fla., where Mrs. Andrew's father is reported to be in a dying condition. Mrs. Andrews is in an Eastman, Ga., hospital in a critical condition. Her husband was killed instantly by a bullet said to have been fired by one of the negroes from the back seat of the automobile in which they were riding.

The negroes brought here are Wilmer Galloway, William Rountree and Mose Banks. They were brought here this afternoon by Sheriff C. N. Mullis, of Dodge county, and Deputy Sheriff H. C. Williams, after a mob of more than 1,000 persons had threatened to storm the Telfair county jail at McRae and seize the prisoners.

According to Mrs. Andrews' story, as related here by officers, Mr. Andrews stopped the car at a filling station a short distance from the scene of the shooting, to put some water in the radiator.

"While we were there, two negroes approached and asked to ride to their shanty up the road a short distance," Mrs. Andrews is quoted as saying.

"They boarded the car, one in the back seat, the other on the running board. But they did not get off at the shanty.

It was about this time, Mrs. Andrews said, that the negro in the rear seat fired and killed Mr. Andrews.

The negro, whom Mrs. Andrews has positively identified as Calloway, officers said, then ordered Mrs. Andrews out of the car. He flung her on the ground.

A few minutes later, he ordered her to stand up.

"When I arose, he shot me down," Mrs. Andrews told officers.

Left for Dead.

The bullet penetrated her mouth.

The negroes, thinking Mr. and Mrs. Andrews dead, are said to have left the couple lying on the ground by the side of the road. Mrs. Andrews revived about an hour later, and, although wounded, succeeded herself together and made an effort to get help. About a mile from the scene, she said she knocked on the door of a farm residence, but was refused admittance and later arrived at the home of R. L. Kinchens, a farmer, who notified Z. W. Dowdy, chief of police at Milan.

Soon after the incident was reported an armed posse of more than thirty men, led by officers of Telfair county, formed and began a search for the negroes. One of these had been fully described by Mrs. Andrews. The three were apprehended in a little shack a mile from the scene. When officers approached Banks ran, but was stopped with a bullet from the pistol of a member of the posse. His hands and feet were covered with tar when apprehended, and officers said that was to put bloodhounds off his track.

Galloway is said to have been positively identified by Mrs. Andrews as the negro who killed her husband, robbed him of some $125 which he is said to have had in his possession, and later shot her.

Rountree, she said, was with the other negro but did not take any part in the murder.

Mr. and Mrs. Andrews were said to have been lost off the main highway leading from Alamo to Milan and inquired of the negroes the direction.

The third negro, Banks, was found by officers at the shanty where the three were arrested. Banks, too, was arrested by the officers. The three are being held here, pending a thorough investigation of the crime and in establishing the identity of the men connected with the crime.

CHIEF OF POLICE SLAIN BY NEGRO

Large Posse, With Bloodhounds, Searching for Killer of W. H. Callaway, Manchester Officer

Manchester, Ga., September 27.—(Special.)—W. H. Callaway, Manchester chief of police, was shot and killed here this afternoon by Marshall Redding, a negro, who fled following the affair and has not been apprehended.

Chief Callaway, in company with J. E. Collier, superintendent of the street paving force of the city, visited Redding's home to ascertain why Redding's son, J. C. Redding, who had been sentenced to a term of road work for disorderly conduct, had failed to report for duty this morning.

According to Collier, as the two men approached Redding's house, the negro emerged with a single-barrelled shotgun in his hands, said "Look out, white folks, I'm coming out," and fired before the police chief could draw his gun. The full charge took effect in Callaway's left side. He was carried to a local hospital and given immediate attention but he expired within 30 minutes of the shooting.

Collier, unarmed, was unable to prevent the negro from fleeing the scene of the shooting, although he immediately notified authorities. Bloodhounds from this and adjoining counties have been summoned and a large posse, composed of prominent Manchester citizens has been formed and is prosecuting a vigilant search for the slayer.

Redding was still at liberty tonight but his wife, son and sister, who escaped with him, were captured in the hills seven miles south of Manchester at 6:30 o'clock.

There has been no evidence of race trouble in Manchester and the negroes are cooperating in the hunt for the negro.

Redding has been ill several days with malarial fever, his temperature having registered 104 degrees Monday, and he arose from bed to shoot Chief Callaway this afternoon, it is said. He is said to have responded to a summons of his wife, who is alleged to have called to her husband:

"He's here; come out and shoot him."

Callaway, who was one of the best known men in the county, is survived by his mother, Mrs. W. H. Callaway; his wife, and two children, Miss Dorothy Callaway, 15 years of age, and Herman Callaway, 19, a student at Piedmont college.

Augusta, Ga. CHRONICLE
OCT 6 1927

WHITE WOMAN OF JASPER COUNTY IS BEATEN BY NEGRO

Monticello, Ga., Oct. 5—(AP)—Armed posses are scouring Jasper county tonight searching for George Clark, negro, who is being hunted for attacking and brutally beating the wife of a prominent dairyman living near here. The attack occurred late this afternoon. The victim of the attack is suffering from a fractured skull and other injuries suffered at the hands of the negro and little hope is held out for her recovery.

The woman who remained conscious during the assault and after she had been beaten over the head with a plow handle told of her treatment by the negro to a doctor who was summoned by her nephew who discovered her shortly after the attack.

The victim said that the negro who had been employed by her husband only a few days, came to the house and told her that one of the mules in the barn was dead and asked her to come and see about it. The woman's husband was away at the time attending the Morgan county fair to view the dairy exhibits which were being held today. Many other farmers in the immediate section of the dairyman's home were also in attendance at the fair and the negro evidently was aware of this fact the woman said.

Asked About Mule.

"It was shortly after my husband left for the fair, that the negro approached the house and asked me to see about the mule," the woman told the doctor. "When I reached the barn he picked up a plow handle, hit me over the head three times, then grabbed me by the throat and threw me in a stall. All the while he was accomplishing his purpose he was choking me and I suffered a hemorrhage of the hroat because of his choking. He then picked up the plow handle and beat me over the head and fled," the woman told the doctor.

After the negro ran, the woman dragged herself to the door of the barn and screamed. A nephew who was working in a nearby field heard the cries and came to her assistance. A doctor was summoned and the woman was carried to her home. The doctor said tonight the victim had no chance to recover because of the severe fracture of the skull.

Search Conducted.

Posses were soon organized and the search is now being conducted through Jasper and all nearby counties. Dogs from the state farm at Milledgeville are being used to hunt the negro. Officers are endeavoring to conduct the hunt alone in order to protect the negro in case he should be captured. Little hope is held out for him if he should fall into the hands of the searchers, officers say.

The victim of the assault is one of the social leaders of the county. A seven-year-old daughter of the woman was attending a nearby school at the time the attack occurred.

According to officers the negro has been working in this section for about two months and was employed by the dairyman last Monday. He is about 30 years old and has a dark gingerbread complexion. The negro weighs about 170 pounds and is about 5 feet 7 inches tall. He was wearing overalls, a blue shirt and a straw hat at the time he left.

Clark was sighted by farmers about three miles from the scene of the attack about two hours after it occurred and the officers have taken up the hunt for him from that point.

POSSE KILLS MAN IN FRONT OF JAIL

Mount Vernon, Ga., November 13.—(AP)—Flournoy Gibbs, about 30 years of age, was shot to death this afternoon in front of the county jail by members of a posse which had been seeking him for several hours in connection with the burning of several barns in this county within the last few days.

The posse, headed by Sheriff M. L. McRae, of Montgomery county, had been scouring this section for Gibbs and his alleged accomplice following the discovery of Gibbs' car last night at the scene of an incendiary fire near here.

The car was seized by the sheriff and brought to the county jail. A posse was formed and the members sworn in as deputies. This afternoon Gibbs was seen to alight from a car in the northeastern section of Mount Vernon and approach the jail. Armed with a revolver, he is said to have announced his intention of recovering his car. Several citizens remonstrated with the man, urging him to procure his machine through a more orderly process.

Gibbs is said to have ignored the advice of by-standers. Gibbs was a son of J. W. Gibbs, a prominent citizen of Mount Vernon.

Lynchings-1927
Side Lights.

Georgia.

2667

Louisville, Ga., News & Farmer

OCT 6 1927

NEGRO IMPLICATES WHITE FARMER IN SLAYING OF HOWELL

Eastman, Ga., Oct. 4—(AP)—With a rope around his neck, ready to pay the penalty of mob law, for the murder of W. H. Howell, wealthy farmer, who lived the life of a recluse near here, Willie Thomas, negro, was saved from hanging late last night when he made a confession implicating Tom Buchanan, 28, farmer and a member of a prominent family in Dodge county. Buchanan was arrested shortly after the negro's statement and spirited away by Sheriff C. N. Mullis where he is now confined in an unnamed jail.

Thomas was arrested late yesterday by Sheriff Mullis, after the body of Howell was discovered in a shallow grave on his farm. The negro confessed to the killing which he said occurred Saturday afternoon.

The negro is confined in a cell in the Dodge county courthouse, which is used to house prisoners while their trials are under way. The prisoner was being guarded by Deputy Sheriff W. J. Brown.

According to the story told by the deputy this morning, he said that a mob of more than 500 persons, which was composed entirely of men, approached him in the courthouse and demanded the keys to the negro's cell. The deputy refused to turn over the keys and he was instantly grabbed from behind and the keys were forcibly taken from him.

Implicates Buchanan.

The mob then carried the negro about five miles in the country and prepared to take his life. With the noose around his neck and the other end of the rope dangling over a limb, they asked the negro if he had anything to say, and it was then he charged, according to the deputy that he had been hired by Buchanan to aid in slaying Howell.

Cooler heads in the mob prevailed upon other members of the mob to let the law take its course, and the noose was removed and the negro was taken back to jail.

According to Sheriff Mullis, when Buchanan was taken into custody, he denied all knowledge of the slaying and said he was unacquainted with the negro Thomas.

The negro in his story to Sheriff Mullis this morning said that all plans for the slaying of Howell had been pre-arranged by Buchanan. A shallow grave was dug in one of the fields near Howell's home and both he and Buchanan, carried shotguns to kill the farmer. They sighted him while he was approaching his house, after working in the fields, said Thomas, and Buchanan ordered him to go to Howell and tell him that several of Buchanan's hogs were in Howell's fields, and ask him to help in capturing them, the negro continued.

"When Howell approached the spot where the grave had been dug, the negro opened fire and Howell fell," said the negro. "While he was laying on the ground Buchanan then fired," the negro told the Sheriff. "We then picked him up, placed him in the grave and piled dirt and corn shucks over him, and then hurried away," said Thomas.

Thomas told the sheriff that Buchanan wanted Howell out of the way because he was an eye-witness to his attempt to shoot a Telfair county deputy, which occurred about six months ago. Buchanan was indicted for attempting to take the life of the deputy. His trial was scheduled to take place at the November term of the Telfair superior court. Buchanan was making his home with Howell at the time he attempted to shoot the deputy, according to Sheriff Mullis. The negro also said that he was to receive $150 and a cutdown automobile for his part in the slaying.

Howell's body was found in a crude shallow grave in a clump of trees near his home. He was reputed to be very wealthy. He was a bachelor and is survived by two half-brothers and one sister.

The trial of the two men is expected to be held early next week as the Dodge superior court will be convened Monday and it is expected that the case will be the first one presented to the grand jury when it convenes.

Funeral services for Howell were held at McRae, Ga., this afternoon. Rev. B. E. Whittington, pastor of the Methodist church in McRae officiated.

SAVANNAH, GA.
News
OCT 10 1927

HERE IN GEORGIA

The New York World is invited to co[mment] on some recent happenings in Georgi[a]

One was the big dinner given by the whi[te] citizens of a Georgia county to the negroe[s] of the county .

Another was the failure of a Georgia mo[b] to lynch a negro for the murder of a whit[e] man after it had the prisoner in its hands.

The third was the honors paid to a negro man at Monticello, Ga., after he had captured a negro charged with assault upon a white woman.

The World may say that all these but emphasize the fact that there are two races here, with a sharp dividing line between them. Which is but saying that nature has put plenty of emphasis on that fact already, not only in the South, but all over the world; and when members of the two races can reach a modus vivendi which makes for peace which permits the pursuit of happiness, which does recognize fundamental facts which no amount of poorly-advised sentiment can overcome, surely this is something worthy of commendation. The people of New York, Chicago, Philadelphia, Detroit and most other Northern cities know that nature has drawn a line between white and black and that in certain phases of our life the two must live apart, however much they may join hands in other phases; they know this as well as the people, white and colored, of the South know it, although they have learned it but recently.

It is evident that there is a basis of living together, working for the good of the place where both live, maintaining peace and harmony, and that when both races are willing to seek that basis, peace and quiet and prosperity will follow for both races. The mistaken advice given from Northern sources to the colored people of the South has not been good for them, and that advice comes very seldom from the North now, for the simple reason that the problam has become national instead of being, as once it was, strictly Southern.

There is no objection in the South to members of the colored race making money owning homes, farms, factories, and the increase in wealth of the colored race in the South is pretty good evidence of that fact. One of the wealthiest men in Decatur county in the southwestern section of the state is a colored man who has the respect of the white population of the county. In all the cities of Georgia are well-to-do colored people who take pride in their homes, their businesses and professions, and who live in perfect amity with their white neighbors.

All of which does not mean that perfection has been achieved. Whenever perfection comes on earth, in Georgia or in New York, in any human relations, it will be time for wings to grow on our shoulders. The comment here is to indicate what the Morning News not only hopes, but believes, is a tendency, on the part of not only one race, but both, toward that accord, that willingness to live together without trying to forget the distinction which nature has made between the races, which will bring continued peace and well being. Teh troubles of the past have been chargeable in part at least to the effort of poor advisers of the negroes to prove that when nature made the distinction she didn't know what she was doing and that her work in that regard did not amount to anything, anyhow.

There is room in the South for both races. There is a plan of living together here that will work. That plan cannot ignore, but must frankly recognize an existing biological fact.

Jackson, Mich., Citizen-Patriot
Wednesday, Oct. 5, 1927

CONFESSION SAVES NEGRO FROM NOOSE

Admits to Mob That White Man Hired Him to Slay Georgia Farmer.

Sastman, Ga., Oct. 5.—(AP)—A Negro's insistence that a white man hired him to commit a murder stayed the noose of a mob here.

The alleged confession of Willie Thomas, the Negro, resulted in the arrest of Tom Buchanan, charged with complicity in the slaying of W. H. Howell, 66, a farmer whose body was discovered in a shallow grave near his home.

The mob stormed the county jail here where Thomas had been imprisoned, took the Negro out and questioned him before making ready to put him to death. Thomas insisted that Buchanan paid him $5.50 to shoot Howell, and also promised him the dead man's automobile, whereupon the leaders of the mob returned the Negro to jail and sought Buchanan.

Cartersville, Ga., Tribune-News
OCT 13 1927

Mob Takes Negro From Jail to Lynch Him, But Relents

Eastman, Ga.—Triumph of a mob's sense of justice over its blood lust returned Willie Thomas, a negro accused of murder, to the Dodge county jail here today after he had been taken out to be lynched.

Thomas confessed, according to the county police ,that he killed W. H. Howell ,56. wealthy farmer, whose body was found buried on his farm yesterday.

Storming the little jail last night, the mob took the negro into the woods. Ropes were produced. He was told that he was to be hanged. Did he have any last word to say?

Thomas said he had. With amazing calmness ,he told a story of having been hired to kill Howell by an enemy of the slain farmer.

So convincingly did the negro tell his story that the mob relented. Even the brutal, unthinking spirt that animates such projects gave way. The leaders hesitated.

Fair play prevailed. The men took Thomas back to jail. They had not harmed him. His story was repeated to the police and within a few hours they arrested Tom Buchanan a white farmer.

Both Buchanan and Thomas are held for the grand jury. The county police say they have no further fear of mob violence in this case.

According to the statement of Thomas, he was hired, with an advance payment of $5 and the promise of $100 more and a Ford car, to shoot Howell.

All he ever received, Thomas said, was the $5.

He explained that Buchanan had wanted to get Howell out of the way because Howell was going to testify against him at a criminal trial to be held next week. Buchanan is charged with firing at a county policeman and Howell was a state witness.

Thomas said he fired at Howell with a shotgun. According to the negro, Buchanan ,standing near, also fired with a revolver and then helped bury the body .

Howell's body was searched, but it yielded only 50 cents. No effort was made to search the farm house where Howell, who was a bachelor lived alone.

Thomas, however, took Howell's automobile, according to the authorities. The negro was arrested in McRae when he tried to trade in the car for another one.

Meanwhile Howell had been missed. No one had seen him since Saturday. Searching parties were sent out, and his body was dug up yesterday about 150 yards from his house. Thomas was grilled, and admitted the crime, the police said.

Buchanan stoutly denied any connection with the crime. He termed the negro's story false in every particular.

County Policeman Cleve Rogers said the cases of both men would be presented to the Dodge county grand jury next Monday.

Howell was one of the most prominent farmers in this section. He was interested in several banks and in a naval stores business.

He is survived by two half-sisters, Miss Allie Doughtry and Mrs. Susie Craham ,of Lenox, Ga., and two half brothers, C. B. Doughtry, of Lenox, and A. P. Doughtry, of Holland. Va.

Lynchings - 1927
Side Lights.

Idaho

2668

FIRST LYNCHING OFFSET BY FATE

Mob of 300 Fail In Intentions As White Dies of Officer's Bullets

SALMON, Idaho, Jan. 11— (Special) — The first lynching of 1928 came near being that of a white man, and was only prevented by death.

Officers were endeavoring to save Ben Hamilton, reputed "bad man" of the Big Hole Basin from a mob of more than 300 irate whites. The mob had set upon their victim when he collapsed and died from bullet wounds in his head and chest which had been inflicted by the officers in capturing him.

Before his death Hamilton is reported to have confessed killing Deputy Sheriff Lewis Bancroft and two other men, Bill Withington and Glen Cummings Monday night, when about to be arrested on robbery charges.

Lynchings-1927
Side Lights.

Illinois.

2669

MOB THREATENS MOTOR COP WHO RAN DOWN CHILD

When West Park Policeman John Lichter last evening at Roosevelt road and Independence boulevard accidentally ran down and injured a child a mob of pro-Fordites gathered quickly, encircled him, and for a short time threatened violence.

Cries of "Get him!" and "Kill him!" were flung about and several men in the mob struck at the officer. When Fillmore street police arrived to rescue him they found him backing away and holding men and women off with his pistol.

Lynchings- 1927
Side Lights.

Indiana.

2670

2670

WRIT HOLDS KENNEDY IN TERRE HAUTE

Georgia Sheriff Gets Severe Setback

Terre Haute, Ind., Sept. 16.—The kidnaping of Samuel Kennedy by authorities of Georgia was rudely interrupted here when the Indiana branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, through its president G. W. Holland, secured a writ of habeas corpus for Kennedy taking him from the Georgia sheriff. Kennedy is being held awaiting a hearing of the petition by the Indiana authorities.

The Georgia men had spirited Kennedy away from Chicago last week in an automobile, hoping to reach the South with him after boarding a train here. While awaiting the arrival of the train Kennedy was landed in jail for safe keeping. Through the grape vine method Kennedy got word to his friends regarding his whereabouts and the machinery was immediately put in motion to effect his release.

Calls Chicago Attorney

Mr. Holland communicated with Attorney Harold Tyler, who represented Kennedy in Chicago, and learned the facts in the case. Counsel was employed immediately to represent Kennedy here. Funds are being raised by the N. A. A. C. P. to carry Kennedy's case to the supreme court, if necessary. James Weldon Johnson, secretary of the association, wired that all possible aid be given the prisoner.

Kennedy is alleged to be wanted in Madison, Ga., for breaking jail. The authorities there claim that Kennedy was sentenced to serve 18 months on the chain gang after being convicted for slapping Ray Davis, a white man, who attacked him. They allege he broke jail the following night. This incident is supposed to have taken place in 1924.

According to Attorney Tyler, Kennedy is at a loss to explain why he is being hounded by the Georgia authorities, as he claims that he has never lived in Georgia, knows nothing of the Davis case, and can produce an iron clad alibi as to his whereabouts at the time the assault upon Davis is alleged to have occurred.

Arrested in Chicago

Kennedy, who lives at 2954 Prairie Ave., Chicago, was arrested there by Sergeants Scott and Frank Stark of the detective bureau on information from Georgia authorities that he was wanted there. He secured the services of Mr. Tyler, who filed a habeas corpus petition before Judge Emanuel Eller. He denied the writ.

The sheriff of Georgia was surprised when another writ was read to him while he was on board a train, southbound, with his prisoner. For the second time he was compelled to give up Kennedy. When Judge Harry Miller refused to hear the second petition, claiming that it was out of his jurisdiction, Sheriff Avey of Georgia sped with his man to a waiting automobile and, without allowing him time to communicate with his wife or friends, hurried from Chicago in an effort to reach the South, caring not whether the man is burned at the stake, lynched by the neck or riddled with bullets for the alleged crime which he was supposed to have committed.

LAWYERS CITE LYNCH RECORD FROM GEORGIA

Fight for Kennedy Is Being Waged

Terre Haute, Ind., Oct. 7.—Citizens here in a fever of excitement have renewed their fight for the freedom of Samuel Kennedy, alleged to be wanted in Madison, Ga., as a fugitive since 1924, who began his battle for liberty in the circuit court Wednesday morning of this week.

Mass meetings held here under the auspices of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in behalf of Kennedy since he was stopped here on a habeas corpus writ a month ago, while en route South with the Georgia authorities, have resulted in funds being raised by aroused citizens to finance his fight for liberty.

In the meantime attorneys R. L. Bailey of Indianapolis, Harold M. Tyler of Chicago, N. A. A. C. P. representative, and Judge Walker (white) of this city have left no stone unturned in preparing for the defense.

Serves Governor With Writ

A new move in the case was made last week when the governor of Georgia served the governor of Indiana with a requisition for Kennedy. This presented a new legal angle which will be fought out by the defense attorneys. Many attorneys here of both races are interested in the case because of the related legal questions which have arisen. It sets a precedent and raises the question of whether the Georgia authorities did not surrender their legal rights to Kennedy after turning him over to the Indiana authorities to hold temporarily while waiting for a southbound train.

Will Produce Records

At the hearing of the case this week Georgia's lynch record and also that of her peonage farms will be presented. From such records efforts will be made to prove that Kennedy's punishment will be out of all proportion to his alleged crime. It will be shown that a Race man in Georgia does not have to commit any crime in that state to be lynched, or to be arrested and held in virtual slavery on one of the many peonage farms which abound there.

The Georgia authorities claim that Kennedy was sentenced to serve 18 months on the chain gang after being convicted for slapping Ray Davis, a white man, who attacked him. They allege he broke jail the following night. Kennedy, however, asserts that he has never lived in Georgia and knows nothing of the charges against him.

KIDNAPED BY SOUTHERNERS IN COURTROOM

Kennedy Taken Away Making Bond

Terre Haute, Ind., Oct. 14.—The sensational habeas corpus case of Samuel Kennedy, alleged to be wanted in Madison, Ga., as a fugitive, came to a dramatic end last Friday, the third day of the hearing, when Kennedy, according to his attorneys, was kidnaped from the circuit courtroom of Judge Jeffries by the sheriff of this city and turned over to the Georgia authorities.

The kidnapping was staged after Judge Jeffries had ruled that his court had no jurisdiction but he would allow Kennedy an appeal to the federal court and permit his release on $1,000 bond. Bail was being arranged for the prisoner when he was spirited out of the courtroom in spite of the objections of his attorneys, Harold M. Tyler, Chicago; R. L. Bailey of Indianapolis, and J. T. Walker (white) of this city.

Had No Warrant

The Terre Haute sheriff refused to produce a warrant or to answer any questions asked by the defense attorneys. He merely stated that he could do anything he wanted to do.

Kennedy was immediately surrounded by a bodyguard of approximately 30 policemen, protecting the sheriff from outside interference. He was handcuffed and gagged and immediately rushed out of the city in an automobile. Two carloads of policemen accompanied the car containing the prisoner to the city limits, the attorneys said.

Efforts to intercept the Georgia authorities and their prisoner were made in Evansville, Ind., by Attys. E. G. Tidrington and O'Hara of that city, who obtained another habeas corpus writ and had all southbound trains from Terre Haute searched after receiving a long distance message from Kennedy's attorneys. All highways leading into Evansville were watched in vain for the Georgia party had taken a round-about way into Henderson, Ky.

From there Kennedy managed to send a letter to his wife in Chicago. It was dated Oct. 8, and described how he was handcuffed and beaten with his mouth and head tied up. "I am all bloody now all over my head and everywhere. They knocked holes in my head; it looks like I have got on a red shirt now," Kennedy wrote.

Work of Plan

Terre Haute citizens declare that the kidnapping of Kennedy with the aid of the police and sheriff here evidently had been planned in advance in the event the court ruled against them. It was the super-government of the Ku Klux Klan in operation, citizens here assert.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has advised an appeal to the federal court, if possible, in an effort to prosecute those who played a part in the kidnapping, according to Kennedy's lawyers. The Georgia state's attorney, Q. L. Williford, declared they had spent more than $2,000 trying to get this "Nigger" back, and if they could not get him back through the courts they would find another way of doing so.

Lynchings-1927
Side Lights.

Kentucky

2671

Mobs Scour Swamps for Sixty-Year-Old Slayer

Mayfield, Ky., Feb. 11.—The search for Henry Walker, 60-year-old tenant, who is alleged to have killed Zelner [illegible], 42, his employer, near Tiptonville, Tenn., several weeks ago, was renewed with increased vigor when a reward for the capture of the old farmer was increased to $1,000.

Walker's wife and his son are being held at Tiptonville for questioning, while the officers of the two states are attempting to find the man, who is reported as hiding in the swamps near [illegible].

Posse Hunting Man In Officer Killing

PIKEVILLE, Ky., Feb. 21.—Posses of citizens and deputies Monday were searching for Reuben Branham, 42, who Sunday afternoon shot to death Constable Jackson Kelly, 51, and fled into the mountains.

Constable Kelly told Branham he would have to stop "shooting up the camp" when the latter rode into a logging camp near this town and started firing. Branham said he was going to kill the man who killed his dog and would kill anyone who tried to stop him.

FARMER'S SLAYER HIDING IN SWAMP

Tennessee Posse and Officers Continue Search For Negro Wanted For Murder

MAYFIELD, KY., Jan. 25.—(AP)—Henry Walter, negro tenant who shot and killed his employer, Z. T. Leech, 40 years old, prominent plantation owner near Tiptonville, Tenn., Sunday was believed to be hiding in the marshes near Hickman, Ky., Lake county, Tenn., officials said this afternoon.

Officers traced him into Kentucky after he was seen at a store on number 9 Lake street late Monday. The negro disappeared in the direction of Miller Station, Ky., the officer said. Bloodhounds brought from Walter Valley abandoned the trail of the slayer because of high waters.

Walter killed Leech when the latter went to the negro's home to prevent him from leaving the plantation without making stttlement on a heavy debt. Leech, a native of Wingo, Ky., was widely known in western Tennessee and Kentucky.

POSSE HUNTS NEGRO

Hundred Men On Trial Of Alleged Assailant Of Kentucky Woman

DANVILLE, KY., July 21.—(AP)—Led by local officers, a posse of about 100 men searched the territory surrounding the home of Chess Coffman, railroad section hand, for several miles today for an unknown negro who was accused of criminally assaulting Mrs. Coffman, this morning.

A description of the man was given by Mrs. Coffman and was forwarded to police north and south of Danville.

The attack occurred about 100 yards from the Coffman home on the outskirts of Danville she reported. Mrs. Coffman is sick in bed. Several suspects were brought before her but she said none of them was the man who attacked her.

Lynchings-1927
Side Lights.

Louisiana.

2672

OFFICERS HELD AS SLAYERS

La. Negro In a Dying Statement Accuses Three. Taken To Lonely Spot Flogged And Shot

LAKE CHARLES, La., April 20.—Three white men, two of whom are law enforcement officers, are being held here on a murder charge. The charge grew out of the slaying of Willie Autrey, colored, Thursday night.

Autrey, who had been placed in jail at De Quincy to await hearing on a charge of a minor offense, was found dying in a wood near the town. He was badly bruised and mutiliated, and had a bullet wound in his back. Doctors at a local sanitarium, where the mortally wounded man was carried, made futile efforts to save his life. He died at 3 o'clock Saturday morning.

Accuses Three

Before death came upon him Autrey regained consciousness and through feeble breaths in a dying statement accused three men of being responsible for his death.

Those named by Autrey were Deputy Sheriff Gus Royer, Town Marshal C. C. Hammock and M. E. Newell, all of Dequincy. Charges of murder were filed against the three soon after Autrey's death. The three were placed under $5,000 bond charged with murder.

Left for Dead

From what could be gained from the dying man's statement, he was taken from his cell by three men, who he accused, and carried to the isolated spot where he was found. There he was flogged with clubs until unconscious, after which he was presumably shot in the back and left for dead.

Lynchings - 1927
Side Lights.

Maryland

2673

NEW YORK
JOURNAL

JUN 14 1927

PLAN TO LYNCH SLAYER FAILS

By Universal Service.

FREDERICK, Md., June 13.—Eluding would-be lynchers, a posse spirited William H. Rofs, a young negro. to the Frederick jail following his arrest on a charge of having murdered Mrs. Lottie L. McElfresh, wife of his employer.

The murder was the most revolting one in the history of this section, the slayer having horribly mutilated the body with an axe, cutting off the head and all limbs.

Ross, his clothes drenched with blood, was found hiding in a swamp along the Monocacy River nearby. The posse was forced to fire several shots to frustrate the attempt of aroused townspeople to take the law into their own hands.

N. C. HUMORISTS LAUGH OVER NEW LYNCHING

Armed Posse Tracks Manacled Criminal With Fox Hounds And Kills Him.

NO ONE WILL ADMIT FIRING FATAL SHOTS

Posse Fires As Dogs Chase Victim Until He's Exhausted.

BAILEY, N. C.—This state celebrated last week a new type of lynching.

[Foxhounds instead of bloodhounds were used to trail Thomas Bradshaw escaped prisoner, accused of attacking a white girl.

The prisoner's hands were manacled as he escaped and he was unarmed. The posse chased its victim three days. With the aid of the fox hounds, they surrounded him.

As he emerged from the woods the dogs on his trail, armed men were all around. Bradshaw, dead tired, stumbled into view.—three shots were fired and he fell dead.

The posse, laughing and shouting charged upon him. No one would admit firing the shot or claim the $400 reward offered by state and county for his capture.

Story of the Escape

Local papers carried the story of the capture as follows:

Once, a few hours after the crime he was arrested. Handcuffs had been placed upon him.

W. G. Boswell, Bailey policeman, D. C. Bissell and Percy Murray carried Bradshaw, still handcuffed down a lane of a neighboring farm house out of sight.

"I want to pray," said Bradshaw apparently thinking he was about to be lynched.

"Go ahead!' said Boswell.

"Tom was within a yard of me,' said Boswell telling about the experience." I had my eye on him. He made one wild jump and was gone I fired at him. The boys with me jumped in after him and I couldn't uss my gun for fear of hitting one of them. Neither one of the others had a gun. He jumped a fence over waist high, with a top of barbed wire and disappeared.

Boswell Joked

Boswell was the butt of much good humored joking in the crowd of two hundred or more that waited patiently around the body for the coming of the coroner.

"What do you mean by letting a man pray for you and then running him to death?' asked one.

Boswell grinned. He was glad that the chase was over, visibly relieved at the end of it.

Rocky Mount, Nashville, even Wilson, as well as the whole countryside, shared in the crowd that gathered in the pine woods to wait for the inquest. Some brought kodaks along. Pictures were snapped, the body was turned over for a minute examination. They squatted about the ground speculating.

Nobody seemed particularly curious about the identity of the man or men firing the shots. They were deeply interested as to whether or not Tom Bradshaw's feet were torn.

Bring Children

While they waited for the coroner, the crowds came and went. Some drove up within a few feet of the man's body in their Fords. Others parked a mile awaoy and walked. It was precarious driving through a woods road, circling tobacco patches Some brought children along. One litle fellow, hardly more than five years old, took his stand at the dead man's head and stayed there during most of the afternoon. A minister Rev. E. C. Manness, white, brought several children to view the dead man, then hurried them away.

"That's enough," he said. "when they had one good, awed look.

Dogs Sounded "Good"

The dogs did it. That was the consensus of opinion that paid high tribute to the worth of Jonah Perry's Walker fox hounds. No bloodhounds there. Just Walker fox hounds, but good, full-blooded fox hounds, that gave to the chase the semblance of a fox hunt.

As one of the posse talked about the dogs, he warmed up enthusiastically. He smiled his satisfaction over the baying brutes .

"Sounded good didn't it" someone asked.

"God, boy," he said, "I couldn't half run for listening to them hounds.

Mob Humor

Half dozen men brought the body through the crowd, hanging a piece of sacking strung out in hammock fashion.

"Be sure to get the names of the pall bearers," somebody called out to a newspaper man.

"Whose your friend?" asked another of him who carried the lead of the burden.

"Don't know; haven't met him yet,' he answererd.

Lynchings-1927
Side Lights

Mississippi

2674

Posse, Bloodhounds In Hunt for Slayer

SEMINARY, Miss., Feb. 7.—Posses with bloodhounds Sunday furiously searched for the slayer of H. C. Drennan, wealthy, aged cattle man, whose body was discovered at his farm house shortly after dawn with a pistol bullet through hi heart.

NEGRO IS SOUGHT IN SHOOTING CASE

Prosperous Mississippi Farmer Seriqusly Wounded by Black; Dogs on Trail

OKOLONA, MISS., Feb. 6—(AP)—Oscar McMorris, negro, who was today being sought for shooting of Walter Henley, prosperous farmer near Okolona late last night, was still at liberty late tonight but sheriff's posse and bloodhounds were remaining on the trail.

The negro is believed to be hiding in the swamp land between Okolono and Tupelo, but according to other reports was seen boarding a freight train near Verona. The shooting was the outgrowth of an altercation a few days ago.

McMorris was alleged to have gone to Mr. Henley's home and beaten a negro woman servant. Mrs. Henley was badly frightened by the occurrence and Mr. Henley was said to have sent for McMorris to ask an explanation. McMorris is reported to have sent back the words, "My gun is as big as yours."

Late last night, when Mr. Henley was riding along the highway on horseback, the negro, in a wagon with several other negroes, met Mr. Henley and is alleged to have opened fire. Mr Henley is in a hospital and his condition is reported to be serious.

OFFICER SHOT DOWN; POSSES TRAIL NEGRO

Vicksburg Policeman Near Death From Pistol Bullet.

VICKSBURG, Miss., April 10.—Late tonight no trace had been found of Richard "Bud" Bridges, young negro, hunted by posses for the shooting of Officer Robert Forbish last night when the policeman attempted to arrest him.

Officer Forbish is near death in the sanitarium here and is not expected to live until morning.

The shooting took place almost in front of the Warren County jail on Cherry Street. It followed a chase of three negroes and the arrest of one who jumped from the speeding stolen car on Jackson road. After he had been taken to the police station and then to the county jail he told the officers that the negro that stole the car was coming down the street across from the jail. The officers thought it was a ruse of the negro to escape the officers but Forbish, cautioning the others, went across the street and accosted the negro Bridges.

When ordered to throw up his hands he came up with a gun, firing and hitting the officer in the stomach. The officer's bowels were perforated 19 times and it will be impossible for him to recover, it is thought.

Six hours later the fugitive negro was seen in the southern part of Vicksburg and Officer Griffin fired at him several times but he escaped.

About dawn this morning a posse believed they had the black cornered at an old stave mill south of town near the river but he again eluded them. This time they thought he secured a skiff and got across the canal into the swamp but later, after the swamp had been searched, this was doubted.

At 7 o'clock a message was received at the police station stating a negro was aboard a freight going south and the description given fitted Bridges. If it is the black he will be arrested at Port Gibson.

The posses are still out, many citizens joining in the 18-hour man hunt. Some are of the opinion that the fugitive is hidden away within the city and will be taken later on in the week.

While there is some excitement no talk of mob law is heard if the negro is caught.

Almost Lynch Negro For a Crime He Has No Connection With

BONEVILLE, Miss., April 1. — Jack McKee, Negro, was almost lynched here today by an angry mob who hoped to use him as the goat for the murder of Mrs. N. R. Clayton. Her husband who is at liberty under $10,000 bail himself is charged with the crime.

MISSISSIPPI TOWN EXPELS NEGROES FROM ITS LIMITS

Hazelhurst, Miss., July 17.—(AP)—City Marshal Phil Massa told the Associated Press here today that a group of enraged citizens last night drove all negroes found in the business section out of the city limits.

The action came, the marshal said, after a white woman had been insulted by a negro man and an automobile driven by a negro girl had seriously injured a mother and child.

No shots were fired, Massa said, but the enraged citizens mobilized and using rifles, clubs and bricks, drove the negroes to the city limits.

No resistance was offered, he said, and no further trouble was anticipated.

The trouble started Thursday night, the marshal said, when the wife of a local telephone man reported to her husband that S. L. Caldwell, 28-year-old negro farmer, had spoken to her insultingly. As he moved toward her, she said, she called her husband and he drove the negro away with a pair of pliers.

Posses searched the county Thursday night and Friday for Caldwell, whom both the woman and her husband identified, but no trace of him was found.

While feeling still was tense Saturday afternoon, Mrs. Lucy James and a baby were run down by an automobile driven by a negro girl. Both were seriously injured and the accident precipitated the expulsion.

A group of citizens hastily assembled, he said, and they passed from house to house in the business section driving the negroes before them down the streets to the city limits. Restaurants and business houses were cleared of blacks and driven cowering before the crowd with threats and blows.

The city marshal said he did not recognize any of the members of the crowd. No further trouble is anticipated, he said, unless Caldwell is captured, and both negroes and whites were quiet tonight. Failure of the negroes to resist the crowd probably averted a race riot, he said.

Left to Die After Mob's Inhuman Act

Jackson, Miss., Dec. 23.—City and county officers here joined in with a mob of well known citizens and mutilated Major Pinkison and George Lewis, porters at a local hotel, after the two had been arrested on a charge of being intimate with two white women.

The women, who were found in a hotel room with the porters, told the officers that it was upon their invitation that Pinkison and Lewis were in their company.

Both men were locked up in a jail at Raymond, 25 miles from Jackson, and were being brought to the latter city Saturday for hearing when the mob seized them. It is reported that one of the officers in charge of the prisoners telephoned ahead, warning the mob that the two negroes would pass through Mississippi Springs. When they arrived at this point, Pinkison and Lewis were met by a crowd of 75, who took them into the woods and mutilated them.

The officers made no attempt to aid the prisoners, but stood aside and watched while two physicians in the mob castrated them, cut their ears off and stuck them on their backs with large surgical needles. Other members of the mob then jumped up and down on their abdomens until they were ruptured. The officers left with the mob and Pinkison and Lewis were brought to town by tourists who found them groaning in the woods near the highway. They are in a serious condition at a local hospital.

Two local white papers gave different versions of the affair. The Jackson Daily News attempted to exonerate the white women in characteristic southern style, by stating that they "had made charges" against the men, while The Daily Clarion-Ledger gave the correct version by declaring that the women made no charges, but were also being held on disorderly conduct charges because the association was mutual. Nothing will be done to apprehend the mob leaders.

OPERATION PERFORMED ON TWO NEGROES BY MOB

JACKSON, MISS., Dec. 18—(AP)—Seventy-five masked men overpowered two Hinds County deputy sheriffs at Mississippi Springs, about 12 miles West of Jackson, Saturday and seized two negro prisoners upon whom they performed a surgical operation, it was learned today. The two men were picked up by passerby and brought to a hospital, where physicians said they would recover.

The negroes, Major Pinkison and George Lewis, bell boys in a local hotel, were arrested Wednesday when found in the room of two white women. Disorderly conduct charges were filed against the four.

Removed to the county jail at Raymond for safe keeping, the negroes were in the custody of officers bring them back to Jackson for when the masked men were met. The white women will appear Monday.

Lynchings-1927
Side Lights

Missouri.

2675

2675

2675

Woman, 110 Yrs. Old, Dies From Terror Of Mob

KINLOCK, Mo., Jan. 19.—Mrs. Jane Dixon, aged 110 years, who fled to this city to avoid threatened mob violence at the hands of "gentlemen of the south," was buried Monday from a St. Louis funeral home. The death of the aged woman was attributed directly to the shock of the brutal treatment and threats she suffered while in the south.

Mrs. Dixon, who talked interestingly of the time when the stars fell and of reconstruction days, came to this city two weeks ago in company with her nephew, Johnson Laura, seeking refuge from the wrath of a Bolivar county (Miss.) farmer by whom they had been employed.

Laura explained to a reporter that his life was threatened by the Southerner when he demanded money due him for work done on the farm. When he refused to work until a settlement was had, Laura says the farm owner's anger was stirred and plans of violence against Laura were arranged.

The courts may move slowly, and sometimes uncertainly, but at their worst, they are vastly better than the mob.

NEWS
Norfolk, Neb.
JUN 1 1927

THE BLINDNESS OF MOBS

Coffeyville, Kan., is furnishing a fresh example of the senselessness of mob violence. Two girls a couple of months ago, told a story of an alleged attack by Negroes. The town was aroused to a high pitch of blind rage. A Negro was arrested and placed in jail. A mob formed, stormed the city building, smashed the window lights and all but forced its way into the building where the prisoner was concealed. The mob was finally dispersed. The Negro, found to have been innocent of the charge, was released. Now the evidence is so strong that no Negro was concerned in the case, that a white man and woman are under arrest as principal and accessory to the crime.

Had it not been for the valiant work of the peace officers, aided by the state troops, an innocent man would have suffered torture and death for a crime he did not commit, and Coffeyville would have been disgraced before the world.

Lynchings-1927
Side Lights.

New Jersey.

2676

NEW YORK TIMES
OCT 21 1927

POSSE HUNTS NEGRO FOR SHOOTING GIRL

Dogs on Trail in Woods Nea Toms River, N. J., After Fugitive Robs Home at Ridgeway.

AN ACCIDENT, VICTIM SAYS

Pistol Discharged as She Tries t Elude Man, She Asserts—Her Condition Serious.

Special to The New York Times.

TOMS RIVER, N. J., Oct. 20.—Bloodhounds are baying the trail tc night of a negro who demande money of Miss Margaret Nippins, 2 years old, a stenographer at th Lakehurst Naval Air Station, an then fired a bullet into her nec under the right ear. The wound ma prove mortal. The shooting too place at the home of Charles Wil bur at Ridgeway, a hamlet nea here, where Miss Nippins boarded.

State Troopers and posses of farm ers are scouring the vicinity, havin a good description of the girl's as sailant, and the bloodhounds from the Wilburtha Training Station nea Kingston were let loose. They ex pect to find the man shortly.

According to the story told the police by Wilbur, the negro entered the living room of his house, where Miss Nippins was reading, about 9:3 tonight. He might have seen her pocketbook lying on the table in the lamplight and in line with the window, Wilbur said. The negro pointed a pistol at her, slipped the purse into his pocket and ordered her to walk upstairs in front of him.

Wilbur and his wife had gone to bed. They heard the man's footsteps and Wilbur opened the door of his room. The negro waved his pistol at him and ordered him back. Then he directed the girl to an adjoining room. Instantly Wilbur slipped out and ran downstairs, half dressed. He hailed an automobile and gave the alarm.

The negro hesitated, chased him a moment, then returned upstairs. He locked Mrs. Wilbur in a room after he had taken the money from her husband's clothes and locked Miss Nippins in another. Mrs. Wilbur clambered out of her window, and escaped by way of the porch. As she ran she heard a pistol shot. At a neighbor's home she called for the police.

Miss Nippins had a moment's consciousness at the Falls-Kimball Hospital, Lakewood, where she was taken. She said she had a struggle with the man, who was demanding money, and the pistol had gone off as she was trying to escape his grip. Doctors probed for the bullet last night. Her chances of recovery are believed to be fairly good.

The Wilburs were able to describe the negro. They said he was about 5 feet 10 inches tall, weighing about 167 pounds, between 25 and 28 years old, had a small mustache, needed a shave badly and was wearing a dark suit and cap.

POSSE SEIZES NEGRO WHO ATTACKED GIRL

Fugitive Run to Earth in Woods After Victim, Left for Dead, Reaches Farm to Give Alarm.

SOUTH JERSEY IS AROUSED

Prisoner, Held in Camden for Safety, Confesses Crime and Asks for Trial Today.

Special to The New York Times.

CAMDEN, N. J., Nov. 25.—Charles Harris, a Philadelphia negro, infuriated this section of Southern New Jersey today when he attacked, beat, stabbed and sought to drown Josephine Moffa, 28 years old, in woods near Dunbarton, a desolate flag stop on the Pennsylvania Railroad eighteen miles from here. The girl dragged herself to a farmhouse and posses beating the woods captured Harris, whom she later identified as she lay in Cooper Hospital here.

Tonight the negro confessed in his cell and besought trial tomorrow. He will have it, if the District Attorney can arrange it.

After news of the attack had spread through the county the negro loitered into the Town of Atco. There, close beside the bank, a pursuer, recognizing him from Miss Moffa's description, accosted him.

Harris beat the man to the draw and covered him with a pistol. At that instant an old woman, against whose door the negro was leaning, pulled it open, leveled a shotgun at him and the negro ran. He was caught a few moments later in Ware's Woods, near by.

While Harris was being arraigned in Magistrate Frank C. Schramm's office in Atco, scores of townsfolk and farmers gathered in front. The Sheriff's men, fearing violence, guarded the door and spirited the prisoner away to Camden where he is held without bail on charges of atrocious assault and battery with intent to kill.

Waited in Lonely Station.

Miss Moffa, whose family lives in Atco, works in Philadelphia. Yesterday she started for that place to draw her week's salary. She is a comely fair girl, with brown eyes. She set the signal for the Philadelphia waytrain to stop at the little station and sat in the shed-like station. While she waited, she told the police later, the negro lurched up the tracks.

"Where you goin'?" he demanded. Hardly waiting for an answer he seized her, drew a pistol, struck her and dragged her to woodland beside the track. He stabbed her in the head and abdomen with a knife. She pretended death, she said, and he shoved her violently into a water-filled ditch and made off.

A few moments later Miss Moffa rallied and managed to go a quarter mile to the farmhouse of George Carlson. Carlson instantly summoned State police and Dr. Leslie Ewing of Berlin, a short distance off. Dr. Ewing, at first fearing the girl's wounds were fatal, took her to Cooper Hospital. There he found that her condition was such that she will probably recover.

Countryside Is Aroused.

Within an hour the news had spread to many hamlets and farms in the vicity. State troopers commandeered motor cars to reach the places where they believed they would find the man they hunted. Farmers and townspeople in Atco and other neighboring places formed in posses and began a systematic search through woodland and fields.

In the midst of the hurly-burly Harris calmly sauntered down Atco's main street. Near by on the White Horse Pike is the farm of Michael Moffa, father of Josephine, and her seven brothers and sisters. Harris walked slowly, viewing the surrounding sights with lackadaisical interest. Near the Atco Bank he took up a commanding position and rested his back and shoulders against a house.

Tony Germano, a warden in the Camden County jail, was hurrying down the street to join a group of men who were bound for Ware's Woods for the man hunt. He saw the negro and halted.

"Here's the guy we're looking for," Germano cried, pointing at Harris. Harris, fumbling a split second in his locket, drew his pistol. Germano's friends were too far away to help, too much in the range of fire if they drew closer. Harris had the "drop" on them.

At that instant the door behind Harris was opened violently inward. It was so close to him that he almost fell. An old woman stood there, a shotgun in her hands. Harris ran.

He dodged around the corner and fled for the woods. In hot pursuit the men were on his trail. He tried to outdistance them. Shots rang out. He tried to dodge. They were too close. He fell, at last, behind a hedge, and submitted peacefully to arrest. With Germano was John Rehn of Atco. They brought Harris back to Judge Schramm's office.

Girl Identifies Prisoner.

Later, in Camden, Lawrence T. Doran, chief of Camden County detectives, and Joseph A. Varbalow, assistant county prosecutor, confronted the negre with Miss Moffa, in the hospital. She was in a semi-hysterical state and screamed and shrank away. "That's the man," she cried, apparently extremely frightened by his appearance.

The prisoner admitted to the prosecutor that he had served a term of years in prison in Tennessee for the murder of a woman and another sentence in Trenton State Prison for highway robbery. Later in the evening he confessed that he had attacked Miss Moffa and begged for an early trial.

NEGROES ARE NOT IDENTIFIED BY MRS. LILLIENDAHL

Hammonton, N. J., November 23.—(AP)—A supposedly vital link in the search by counsel for Mrs. Margaret Lilliendahl and Willis Beach for the killers of the woman's husband, Dr. A. William Lilliendahl, was broken today through the failure of the widow to identify two negro suspects.

The negroes, who had been arrested in Jenkintown, Pa., as alleged highwaymen, were taken before Mrs. Lilliendahl in the Mays Landing jail yesterday.

With Willis Beach, South Vineland poultry raiser, the widow is awaiting trial Monday on charges of having slain her husband. She maintains the aged physician was slain by two negroes as she motored with him on a lonely road near here last September 15.

With eight negroes from Atlantic City, the Jenkintown prisoners were lined up in the corridor of the jail. After looking them over for several minutes, Mrs. Lilliendahl said she had seen the eyes of one of the Jenkintown suspects, but later, when all but two of the Atlantic City men had been led from the corridor and the others had exchanged outer clothing, she picked out one of the Atlantic City negroes as the man whose eyes she said she had seen before.

Lynchings- 1927
Side Lights

North Carolina.

2,000 ARMED MEN SEARCH FOR NEGRO

Morganton, N. C., June 22.—(AP)—Burke county citizens and officers tonight continued their search of the hills and valleys throughout the county for Broadus Miller, negro, accused of having attacked and fatally injured 15-year-old Gladys Kincaid here, last night.

A crowd estimated at more than 2,000 men was still hunting through the woods near Nebo and Bridgewater on the supposition that the negro was in that section, but up to an early hour tonight no trace had been found of the hunted man. Several negroes were captured by the crowds or officers during the day but in every instance persons who knew Miller failed to identify them and they were released.

Will Berry, a negro with whom Miller boarded, is in the county jail here as an important state witness and possibly as an accessory. Berry was arrested after it had been reported that he had been seen driving Miller out of town soon after the girl was found in a woods near town with her skull crushed from a blow. The girl died at a local hospital early today.

While the crowd was searching on its own responsibility, Sheriff J. T. Hallyburton, of Burke county with a posse of deputies also was conducting a search. An effort was being made to find the negro and to spirit him to a jail distant from this section for safe keeping.

Governor A. W. McLean at Raleigh today talked by telephone with county officers and announced that he would offer $250 reward on behalf of the state for Miller. He also declared the negro an outlaw.

NEGRO FUGITIVE SLAIN BY POSSE

Suspect in Death of Girl Opens Fire When Run to Earth in North Carolina.

Morganton, N. C., July 3.—(AP)—Broadus Miller, negro slayer of a 15-year-old girl, was shot and killed in an exchange of shots with officers at Linville Falls, 20 miles from here today, according to a telephone message to officers at noon.

Miller was said to have been surprised by officers in a house at Linville Falls and opened fire from the doorway of the dwelling when the officers appeared. He was mortally wounded in the first volley from the officers. The officers, comprising county deputies reinforced by a posse of civilians, escaped injury.

Miller attacked and killed the girl here two weeks ago and for over a week a crowd that at times numbered 2,000 persons, many of whom were negroes, searched the countryside for him. Two companies of national guardsmen were called out to protect the negro from violence in the event of his capture.

NEGRO GIRL SLAYER KILLED IN BATTLE WITH MOUNTAINEER

Had Eluded Posses Estimated to Number 2,000 At Times During Last Two Weeks In North Carolina

LINVILLE FALLS, N. C., July 3.—(AP)—After having eluded posses estimated to number more than 2,000 at times for two weeks, Broadus Miller, Asheville negro wanted for the murder two weeks ago today of Gladys Kincaid, 15, was killed today in a gun battle with Commodore Burleson, lone mountaineer, who was guiding a fresh posse in the search for the fugitive.

Burleson, who started out with the posse following reports of the burglary of a store, came upon Miller sitting on a rock near a cabin. On sight of the strange white man, Burleson said the negro fired point blank at him with both barrels of a shotgun, but missed. The mountaineer said he emptied his revolver at the negro, killing him instantly.

Officers included in the posse who hurried to the scene with the sound of shots, carried the negro's body to Morganton where it is being held in the county jail.

Miller is alleged to have attacked the girl and then to have killed her to cover up his crime. When suspicion was fixed on him, crowds began the search, resulting in national guardsmen being called to the scene and held in readiness three days to protect him in the event of his capture.

LYNCHED IN NO. CAR.

WHITES JEST AT INQUEST—JOKE AS CORONER'S JURY TRIES TO DETERMINE WHO FIRED SHOTS THAT KILLED VICTIM — ESCAPED AND HID THREE DAYS

Baily, N. C., Aug. 11—(By A.N.P.)—While the coroner's jury was trying to determine who fired the shots that killed Tom Bradshaw, accused of assaulting a 10-year-old white girl, near here Sunday morning, those who composed the posse jested and joked with the hundreds of men, women and children, who had gathered to view the gruesome spectacle.

The killing of Bradshaw by a posse of white men, brought to an end a three-day man-hunt which has stirred three counties. Following the report of the assault, Bradshaw was arrested Sunday. When he was carried to the home of the victim for identification, there were rumors of staging a neck-tie party and "giving him what he deserved." With open threats rampant, three officers led Bradshaw from the home toward the jail.

When the party had reached a short distance, the prisoner realizing his fate and knowing that the guard was insufficient to protect him, asked permission to pray. Upon receiving the permission, he suddenly changed his mind and made a dash for the woods. He gained his objective and for three days, men scoured the woods for his whereabouts, with the aid of fox hounds, owned by Jonah Walker.

Tuesday afternoon the dogs "jumped their prey" and drove him to the open spaces. As he appeared on the hill top fringing the woods, three shots were fired and he pitched forward, having been instantly killed. Thus, adding another lynching to North Carolina's record.

At the inquest, the conversations centered around efficiency of the hounds more than around the tragedy that had occurred.

SUSPECT HELD IN ODD TANGLE

Officers Baffled by Likeness Between Negroes; Mountain Hunt Goes On.

Special to The Charlotte Observer

HICKORY, June 30.—North Carolina's most sensational man hunt took on a new turn today when information spread abroad that Eugene Martin, thought by many to be the negro whose head is worth $1,300 in connection with the capital slaying of the little Kincaid girl in Morganton, was brought to the Catawba county jail in Newton by Chatham county officers.

The pictures sent out by Sheriff Hallyburton, of Burke, and labeled Broadus Miller, outlaw, are said by persons who have seen both the picture and the negro brought here from Chatham to be one and the same person.

HUNT GOES ON.

And while a score or so officials were puzzling over the identity of Martin, or Miller, the search in the Collettsville and Mortimer section of Caldwell county went forward with stubborn persistence. Information reaching here from the field of the mountain search is that the posse which has clung to his trail for the past nine days is continuing to run down every clue that comes to its attention.

Sometime this morning Martin was moved from the Newton jail "to a place of safe keeping." Rumor has it that he was taken to Statesville but officials have refused to confirm or deny that report. It is definitely established, however, that he was not taken to Raleigh.

Morganton officials do not believe that Martin is the negro for whom they are searching, according to a long distance call from the sheriff's office tonight.

They are said to discredit that Gene Martin story but persons here who have compared the photograph and the living suspect are firm in their belief that the resemblance is too marked to neglect a complete investigation.

NEWTON AGOG.

Special to The Charlotte Observer

NEWTON, June 30.—Newton was full of excitement this morning when the news rapidly spread that a man answering description of the picture of the negro who killed Gladys Kincaid in Morganton, had been caught and lodged in the county jail here.

The negro was captured in a coal mine in Chatham county yesterday by W. H. Winebarger, of Hickory, and Deputies F. P. Noae and Everett Kinley of Chatham county, and was brought to Newton and placed in jail last night.

The negro meets in every detail the requirements of the negro, Gene Martin, whose picture is supposed to have been in the papers and officers are satisfied that if the right negro's picture was in the papers, they have the right man.

NOT MILLER.

However, Sheriff Hallyburton, of Burke county and another man for whom Broadus Miller worked until the afternoon before the crime was committed, said that the negro is not Broadus Miller.

The negro, however, said that he is an escaped convict from Asheville, and officers secretly moved him from the county jail here early this morning, and left the people of this city wondering just where he was taken for safe keeping.

Special to The Charlotte Observer

SALISBURY, June 30.—A negro believed at the time to be Broadus Miller, badly wanted for murder in Burke county, was chased across the yards of the Southern railway at Spencer last night.

He had evidently been asleep on the rear of an engine that had come in from the west and jumped and ran while the engine was being parked at the roundhouse.

He had on no shoes but had his feet tied up in rags and this added to the suspicion that he was the wanted negro.

After quite a little chase he eluded the railroad men who were after him.

TELEGRAM
Rocky Mount
JUL 1927 20C

TAR HEEL'S CRIMINAL

News is received of the capture of a negro man, alleged to be the murderer of a small white girl living in Morganton. The entire state has been roused by the dastardly crime alleged to have been committed by the negro. A place of safe keeping from the angry mobs of the section was the first object of officers following the arrest.

The negro is assured of a fair trial and a right to a trial by jury. Let the law take its course, but should a jury find the man guilty and he is not electrocuted, the lithial chair might just as well be destroyed and the space at State prison be occupied with something of use to the commonwealth.

We take pleasure in compliment to Governor McLean in his efforts to prevent a lynching. Troops were on the scene of the crime and were always at hand when rumors of the location of the negro were broadcast. There is little chance that any person or persons would have administered violence to the negro had he been captured, unless the man attempted to get away. Law and order would likely have been preserved

In speaking of the crime and the work of Governor McLean and officers the Greensboro Record expresses the sentiment of the law abiding people of the state by saying.

Whatever the outcome of the exciting man-hunt may be, this question of identity will doubtless serve to allay the excitment and to prevent hasty action by the masses in the event of the apprehension of either of the two men of whom the picture is alleged to be a likeness. Meanwhile Governor McLean, with his accustomed promptness took time by the forelock, so to speak and ordered a military guard to the storm center of the excitment. That is an eminently wise

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course. Even if the posses fail to locate the slayer and effect his arrest, the presence of troops is wise, for no once could foresee a failure of the man-hunt and in the event of its success the executive is earnest and zealous in his desire and purpose that the law and the authority of the State shall not be overridden and an orgy of violence ensue to bring discredit on the State whose laws he was sworn to uphold and enforce.

Meanwhile Governor Richards, of South Carolina, has also been busy, in fact even busier. He has two prisoners charged with incensing capital offences in the custody of the State at widely separated points, but it must be said to his credit that he had the troops there and a lynching has not been undertaken. That is greatly to his credit. A triple lynching occurred just before the present governor was inaugurated, but he is taking every precaution to prevent others, and the cost will be money well expended.

Reverting to the Morganton crime, an exceptional brutal one, we sincerely trust that the officers will apprehend the man and above all the right man. It would be particularly deplorable if an innocent man should be arrested and in the excitement prevailing should be subjected to summary and lawless punishment.

Time is intervening to permit the excitement to abate somewhat and this will, we hope, have the effect of impelling the populace to be sure of the identity and of the guilt of the man apprehended before the news of the arrest is widely disseminated. In such a situation the troops may not be in the vicinity of the spot where the criminal may be run down. It is our duty to uphold the law and respect for it, even though the law has been grossly infringed by the criminals being ...t. Their lawlessness and crime would not justify that of other citizens, and the upholding of the law will protect these citizens against themselves and their strong temptation to disregard the laws in usurping punitive or vengeful authority and power.

NO. CAROLINIANS JEST AS LYNCHING INQUEST IS HELD

Baily, N. C., Aug. 9.—(By A. N. P.)—While the coroner's jury was trying to determine who fired the shots that killed Tom Bradshaw, accused of assaulting a 10-year old girl, near here Sunday morning, those who composed the posse jested and joked with the hundreds of men, women and children who had gathered to view the grue some spectacle.

The killing of Bradshaw by a posse of white men, brought to an end a three day man hunt which has stirred three counties. Following the report of the assault, Bradshaw was arrested Sunday. When he was carried to the home of the victim for identification, there were rumors of staging a neck-tie party and "giving him what he deserved." With open threats rampant, three officers led Bradshaw from the home toward the jail.

When the party had reached a short distance, the prisoner realizing his fate and knowing that the guard was insufficient to protect him, asked permission to pray. Upon receiving the permission, he suddenly changed his mind and made a dash for the woods. He gained his objective and for three days men scoured the woods for his whereabouts with the aid of Fox hounds owned by Jonah Walker.

Tuesday afternoon the dogs "jumped their prey" and drove him to the open spaces. As he appeared on the hill top fringing the woods three shots were fired and he pitched forward, having been instantly killed. Thus adding another lynching to North Carolina's record.

At the inquest, the conversations centered around efficiency of the hounds more than around the tragedy that had occurred. The fact that another human being had been lynched meant little to those who felt happy over the killing of the man. And jokes were passed around freely, as the physician examined the body and expressed the opinion that the shock had caused the death, instead of the shots. The identity of the persons who fired the shots, however, could not be ascertained and the inquest will be continued.

When the report of the lynching reached the neighboring towns, hundreds of white people motored to the scene of the killing and pictures were taken of the dead man. Among the crowd were scores, some having been brought by their parents and others by ministers of the gospel, who were perhaps using this method of proving to the young ones, the efficacy of the admonition, that "the way of the transgressor is hard." Anyway they were there and doubtless when they grow up will be as efficient as their forefathers, in meting out "justice of the Southern variety" to Negroes who transgress.

This lynching mars North Carolina's record, but at the same time proved that Jonah Walker's fox hounds were just as good as blood hounds and much praise is being heaped upon "Raleigh," the dog which led the chase.

North Carolinians Jest At Lynching Inquest

Tell Jokes As Coroner's Jury Tries to Determine Who Fired Shots That Killed Tom Bradshaw

BAILY, N. C., Aug. 11.—(By A. N. P.)—While the coroner's jury was trying to determine who fired the shots that killed Tom Bradshaw, accused of assaulting a 10-year-old white girl, near here Sunday morning, those who composed the posse jested and joked with the hundreds of men, women and children, who had gathered to view the gruelsome spectacle.

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Lynchings-1927
Side Lights.

Ohio.

2678

MOB VICTIM REFUSES TO LEAVE OHIO

Spurns Proposition of Armed Guards

Cleveland, Ohio, Aug. 5.—(Special)—Fred Cain (white), Alabama state law enforcement officer, sent to Cleveland by the Alabama attorney general to question Emory Cobb, concerning the killing of his wife, Lilly, in 1925 by a masked mob in their home at Oneonta, near Birmingham, Ala., arrived in the city last Thursday and started to work on the case.

Attorneys for Cobb, after negotiating with the Alabama state official, refused to permit their client to return to the South to testify, for fear that he would be killed. The officer left the city Saturday night for the South without Cobb. The tragic, worn man stated before the decision of his attorneys to keep him in the city, that he would return to the South to testify if provided with armed guards while in Alabama. He said that he would not live in the South again under any circumstances.

Tells Tragic Story

Cobb, in telling his story of sorrow, said that since 1911 he had lived peaceably on his 20-acre cotton and truck farm on the outskirts of Oneonta, 36 miles north of Birmingham. He had no trouble, he says, until the Sunday night in April, 1926, which he remembers so vividly.

The Cobbs had retired early, but both were awake when they heard horses gallop up to their house. Several men crashed through the front door, awakening three of Cobb's daughters, Claudine, 19; Ella Margaret, 13, and Emma Lillie, 12, who were sleeping in the front room. The children later said that the band of 30 or 40 men wore white gowns and laughed.

Hearing them enter the house, Cobb grabbed his gun. When they opened the door of his bedroom, he fired. One of the men screamed and all of the men began firing into the room, some through the door and some from the yard through the window.

Wife Shot to Death

Fifteen or 20 shots were fired, Cobb estimates, and then the nightriders left. He slipped out the back door and ran 200 yards to the next farmhouse to get another gun. Not until he returned with it did he learn that his wife, Lillie, 36, was shot through the abdomen. His children told him and he ran after the gang, his gun in his arm. When he reached a main road a quarter of a mile away, where the raiders had parked their automobiles, he heard them drive away as he approached. He sent one of his boys to Oneonta for a Dr. Myers, a white physician, who examined Mrs. Cobb and ordered her to the hospital in Oneonta. Then Cobb ran from neighbor to neighbor trying to get an auto to transport her to the hospital. The Klan had flogged several persons in the neighborhood the preceding week and one that night, and all were afraid to aid Cobb. Despairing, he sent for Dr. Myers again and one of the neighbors agreed to bring her into town if the doctor would ride with them, which he did. Cobb was sheltered by other neighbors that night. On the following afternoon his wife died.

Warned to Flee

He trudged into town to purchase a coffin and make funeral arrangements. In the town, he said yesterday, white men who were his friends advised him to flee the state to save his life. Others thought he would be safe to remain until the case of Moses, who had been arrested meantime, was tried. Justice of the Peace George Darden offered to let Cobb stay in jail, but Cobb declined.

Cobb says Darden advised him not to stay in his own home. "I can protect you all right during the day, but not at night," Darden told Cobb.

Circuit Court Judge Ollie Steele of a nearby town, communicating with Cobb through friends, advised him to leave the state. Cobb borrowed money from friends and left for Cleveland late one night.

Blame Kluxers

Cobb said he did not recognize any of the men in the Ku Klux gang and believes they came from another small town nearby. He knows he shot one of them. Some Klan members live in Oneonta, he believes.

"Down there, when the Klan in a town wants anything done," Cobb said, "they call on the Klan of another town nearby to do it for them, so they won't get into trouble so easily."

The Klan was after his wife that night rather than him, Cobb believes.

"Some woman had spread a story about town that my wife had been with another man," Cobb related, "but I proved that it was just a story. I think they came after her on the strength of that though. They will get after anybody on the slightest rumor."

Lynchings-1927
Side Lights.

Oklahoma.

2680

FEAR LYNCHING AFTER ARREST OF OKLAHOMAN

Ed Glass, Held in Oakland for Killing Sapulpa Officer, Fights Extradition

SAPULPA, Okla. (Special)—Local officers left here for Oklahoma City today to secure requisition papers for Ed Glass, prominent Negro of this city, who is being held in Oakland, California on charges connected with the killing of a peace officer in this city in 1923, by the name of Shep Brumley. Two other officers were wounded in the gun battle that was staged at the Glass home on the fatal night. Their names are D. F. Loveland and Hess Hildridth.

Glass Home Burned

Glass escaped. His dwelling and business property were burned to the ground that night and the entire Negro section terrorized. The affair came swiftly on the heels of the Tulsa riot and because of the close proximity of the two cities much race feeling was generated. Heavy armed patrolled the line between the white and black belt for more than a week after the killing.

Sought to Trap Him

According to the story of the events leading up to the tragedy, Glass, who had amassed considerable property, was a taxi driver. He had been warned by white hoodlums in the cab service, not to park his car near the place by the Frisco depot, where ordinary parking was done. It appears that Glass thought differently and disregarded the warnings, proceeded to do what he felt he had every right to do. He went armed so that he might protect himself against the threats that had been made against his life.

Yank Him in Police Court

Charges of carrying concealed weapons were then filed against him and it is said that a net was being slowly woven around him to entangle him in the tentacles of the law. He was said to have been charged with some offense that he was going to have to answer to the next morning following the killing of Brumley, in connection with difficulties growing out of his determination to park his car where the whites parked theirs.

Friends Claim Officers Lied

On the night of the killing, officers, in company with Police Chief Ralph R. Morey, went to the Glass home. They could not explain their entrance to the front of the building in such numbers after the shooting, except to claim that they had been called there by telephone. As they entered the room, a deadly hail of bullets met them, Brumley falling mortally wounded.

Kill Boodles Ragsdale

A few days following the escape of Glass, officers at Muskogee arrested Boodles Ragsdale, in connection with the killing. It is said that Ragsdale was charged with having transported Glass out of the state in his high-powered Cadillac. On the trip to Sapulpa Creek county officers claimed Ragsdale tried to escape. His dead body was hauled into town. His relatives claimed at the time that he was killed in cold blood as retaliation for the death of Brumley. It is because of the untimely and unseemly death of Ragsdale that Negroes of this section fear for the return of Glass and his bodily safety, if the rumor is true that he is being returned in an automobile in charge of Creek county officers.

SECRET INVESTIGATOR AMONG OKLA. WHITES

Finds Out Sentiment There Is Against Fair Trial For Alleged Convict

WHITE LAWYERS SWEAR MOB WILL DOMINATE

Women Tells How Her Home Has Been Site Of K. K. K. Demonstration

The Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.
10-22-27

NEW YORK,—As a step in the court fight to prevent extradition of Edward Glass from California to Oklahoma, the National Office of the N. A. A. C. P. has had an investigator in Sapulpa, Oklahoma, procuring evidence as to whether Glass would receive a fair trial if returned to Oklahoma. This evidence is being forwarded for use before the courts in California.

The investigator, whose name is withheld, reports that two young white lawyers of Tulsa gave the affidavits that if Glass were returned to Sapulpa for trial, the trial would be dominated by mob violence or intimidation.

A woman gave an affidavit stating that her home had been marked by the Ku Klux Klan as friendly to the Glass family and demonstrations had been made at night in the form of swearing, shooting, and offering threats to "all Negroes."

The above affidavits have been forwarded to Attorney Edward D. Mabson, in California.

The N. A. A. C. P. also reports that the Sapulpa Chief of Police and Creek County Sheriff have returned to Oklahoma without their prisoner, a stay having been granted until February by the Appellate Court.

Lynchings-1927

Side Lights.

Pennsylvania.

2679

Boy "Burned At Stake" I In A Serious Condition

Preston News Service

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Feb. 16 — Winston McLaughlin, aged 10 years is in a serious condition as a result of being "burned at the stake". Three companions of the injured boy are under arrest. Police say that the boys confessed tying the McLaughlin boy to a stake, saturating his clothing with gasoline and then setting fire to his clothing while they danced about waving torches.

Lynchings-1927
Side Lights

South Carolina.

2681

~~LOWMAN FAMILY~~ LYNCHED, DAD TO MOVE NORTH

COLUMBIA, S. C.—Sam Lowman, 55-year-old father of Demon and Bertha Lowman and, uncle of Cl[illegible] Lowman, who were lynched in [illegible] County in October, was released from the State penitentiary yesterday and plans to leave shortly for Philadelphia to live. He said he would never return to his old home.

3-5-27

Lowman was arrested shortly after officers raided his home. In the raid, Sheriff H. H. Howard was killed and the three subsequently lynched were held in connection with the slaying. The elder Lowman was sentenced to prison because of two quarts of moonshine found on the premises. He was absent at the time.

CAROLINA WOMAN SLAIN

Wife of Farmer is Found With Throat Cut From Ear to Ear in Home

YORK, S. C., June 25.—(AP)—Her throat cut from ear to ear, the body of Mrs. Frances Rowan Thomasson, 78, wife of Thomas J. Thomasson, was found lying in her home near Filbert, four miles north, here shortly after noon today.

Pawnee Biggers, negro tenant on the Thomasson farm is in the county jail charged with the murder of Mrs. Thomasson, while her husband, Frank Biggers, was rushed to the penitentiary at Columbia this afternoon for safekeeping, charged with complicity in the murder.

Officers, assisted by a posse of citizens of the Filbert community were scouring the woods tonight in search of Kenton Thompson, negro, also wanted in connection with the murder.

Lynchings - 1927
Side Lights.

2682

FARM NEGRO IS SOUGHT

Tennessean Kinedi Officers Searching for Missing Farm Hand.

RIDGELY, TENN. Jan. 23—(AP).—W. Z. Leech, 40, farmer of Tiptonville was shot and instantly killed today. Henry Walker, 60 year old negro tenant on the farm was being sought tonight by a posse led by Sheriff Damon Beaudden of Lake county and was believed surrounded in a marsh.

NEGRO SLAYER'S BODY FOUND DEAD IN SLOUGH

Walker Drowned in Flight From Pursuit of Posses.

REWARD MAY BE EARNED

Price of $1,000 Set Upon Head of Farmer W. Z. Leech's Slayer. Corpse Discovered Afloat Clutching Weapon of Tragedy.

TIPTONVILLE, Tenn., March 5.—The body of Henry Walker, 60-year-old negro slayer of W. Z. Leech, on Jan. 23, was found today in a slough four miles north of this city. Thus ends a chase of more than a month for the tenant who slew his landlord and employer when pressed to pay a debt. The body was found floating in the slough, still clutching the shotgun which was the direct cause of the murder. For one of the items in the debt which Walker owed Mr. Leech was the cost of the gun with which the shooting was done.

Lucian Hunt, a farmer, saw the body in the slough about 30 feet from the bank and with Harris Campbell took it to Tiptonville for identification. There is a reward outstanding for the capture of Walker dead or alive, part of which was offered by the state of Tennessee in a proclamation by Gov. Peay. It is probable that Hunt or Campbell or both will claim the reward.

On the day of the crime Leech, having been informed that his tenant Walker was preparing to move away without paying his account, went to the negro's cabin. As he stood before the house Walker shot through an opening in the door, killing Leech instantly. Although Walker has been repeatedly reported in Kentucky and Tennessee not far from the scene of the murder and although one posse tracked him to the very slough where the boy was found, no real trace of him had been found until today. All the reason for their lack of success is that retribution overtook the murderer before the hand of man could wreak vengeance. Thus, possibly, the name of the state was saved the shame of a lynching, as feeling ran high for days after the murder.

Heavy wading boots and the gun probably were too much for the negro to carry when closely pursued and he sank in deep water. The body was identified by Mrs. Leech, widow of the slain man, and others who knew him. A crowd of 300 gathered at the courthouse during this ceremony.

TENNESSEE WHITES GO ON KILLING RAMPAGE
(Preston News Service)

Paris, Tenn., June 24—A frenzied posse of fifty or more whites went to the home of Joseph Upchurch, alleged slayer of Sheriff Caldwell when the latter attempted to place Upchurch under arrest. A deputy sheriff is said to have placed Upchurch under arrest soon after he had slain the sheriff and placed him in a log cabin, fearing mob violence. Soon after nightfall the mob formed and stormed the hut, riddling it with bullet.

THIS TIME IT'S IN TENNESSEE

PARIS, TENN., June 23.—Tennessee followed the ignominious lead of Mississippi last week, when a mob of about 50 men, called by law a "posse," shot to death Joseph Upchurch, said to have killed the sheriff.

The cabin where the lad had been placed by a deputy sheriff who arrested him [illegible] riddled with bullets.

Tennessee Whites Go On Killing Rampage

PARIS, Tenn., June 23.—(By P. N. S.)—A frenzied posse of 50 or more whites went to the home of Joseph Upchurch, alleged slayer of Sheriff Caldwell, when the latter attempted to place Upchurch under arrest. A deputy sheriff is said to have placed Upchurch under arrest soon after he had slain the sheriff and placed him in a log cabin, fearing mob violence. Soon after nightfall, the mob formed and stormed the hut, riddling it with bullets.

Negro Who Killed Sheriff Is Shot to Death by Posse

Paris, Tenn., June 17.—(AP)—Joseph Upchurch, a Negro who shot and killed Sheriff T. P. Caldwell this afternoon, was shot to death shortly afterward by a posse.

Couldn't Find Assailants, So He Shoots Innocent Man

NASHVILLE, Tenn., June 9.—(By A. N. P.)—When he failed to find two Negroes who had attacked him, Will James, a white contractor, shot two innocent men who were walking down the street together. According to James Bingham Brown and Henry Robinson he had attacked him and when he returned with his gun he shot the first two Negroes he saw together.

It happened to be Benjamin Franklin and Robert Stoner who met with the angry white man and were shot. Although the man admits that he did the shooting James was not arrested, but the officers are seeking to find Brown and Robinson, the alleged assailants of James.

Kills White Man; Entire Family Forced to Flee From Section

COVINGTON, Tenn. (ANP)—Dee Lewis and his entire family disappeared folowing the killing of a young white man near here Thursday morning, who was alleged to have been slained by Lewis. A mob went to the Lewis home but found it vacant.

According to reports circulating here, the trouble had its origin Wednesday night when Joseph Williams, the dead white man, along with four other whites went to the home of Normal Slater, a colored man, to have a little fun. While there and enjoying the social equality, Lewis came in and attempted to borrow some money from Slater. Being good fellows together, the white men playfully kicked Lewis and he retaliated by slapping Williams in the same playful fashion. This caused a little scuffle and Lewis emerged the best.

Thursday morning, Lewis was at his home and saw Wiliams and the other white men coming toward his house. Sensing that his life was probably in danger, he rushed into the house and secured a gun to protect himself. A few words were exchanged and Lewis fired, killing Williams.

A mob formed immediately, went to the home of Lewis, but was just too late. The entire county is being scoured, and if the Lewis family is caught there may be another lynching.

MOB KILLS NEGRO AFTER HE SHOOTS SHERIFF TO DEATH

Body Of Insane Man Is Riddled With Bullets In Cabin Where He Sought Refuge After Slaying Officer

PARIS, TENN., June 17.—(AP)—Sheriff T. P. (Dick) Caldwell of Henry county was shot and instantly killed this afternoon by an insane negro, and the negro was killed an hour later by a posse of infuriated citizens who surrounder the cabin in which he had barricaded himself and riddled his body with bullets.

While the posse was forming, the sheriff lay on the ground in the rain near the cabin as the negro, armed with a double-barreled shot gun, kept every one at a distance.

Joseph Upchurch, the negro, went to his sister-in-law's home about noon, and threatened to kill her, saying his life had been threatened by members of a fraternal order. She ran to the home of Charles Goldston, a deputy sheriff, on whose place she was a tenant, and Goldston summoned the sheriff.

Caldwell, accompanied by Goldston and Anderson Clendenin, another deputy, went to the cabin and the sheriff, in the lead, placed his hand on the door. Just as he did so, Upchurch jerked it open suddenly and fired a shotgun at him point blank, the charge striking the officer just below the right shoulder. With a cry, "Boys, he's got me," the sheriff staggered about eighteen paces and expired.

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Caldwell, accompanied by Goldston and Anderson Clendenin, another deputy, went to the cabin and the sheriff, in the lead, placed his hand on the door. Just as he did so, Upchurch jerked it open suddenly and fired a shotgun at him pointblank, the charge striking the officer just below the right shoulder.

Goldston went for aid while Clendenin guarded the cabin. Within an hour about 150 persons had gathered and as plans were being made for storming the stronghold, Upchurch appeared at the door and calmly lighted his pipe. The negro's body was riddled with shots fired by the posse. Orders were issued that the negro was not to be removed until after the inquest set for tomorrow. The sheriff's body was brought back to Paris.

Upchurch was a native of this county, but had been in Chicago until recently. His father, hearing that he had become unbalanced, went to Chicago and brought him back last Friday.

Caldwell was 46 years old and leaves a widow and five children. He had been sheriff for three years and was a candidate to succeed himself at the August democratic primary election.

NEGRO WHO SLEW SHERIFF IS KILLED

Paris, Tenn., June 17.—(AP)—Sheriff T. P. (Dick) Caldwell, of Henry county, was shot and instantly killed this afternoon by an insane negro, and the negro was killed an hour later by a posse of infuriated citizens who surrounded the cabin in which he had barricaded himself and riddled his body with bullets.

While the posse was forming, the sheriff lay on the ground in the rain near the cabin as the negro, armed with a double-barreled shotgun, kept

Lynchings - 1927

Texas.

2683

Side Lights.

SANTA BANDIT SHOT BY POSSE IN FIGHT

South Bend, Texas, December 27.—(AP)—A man identified as the Santa Claus bandit who directed the robbery of the First National bank at Cisco, Texas, last Friday was seriously wounded in a gun fight with Young county officers near here today. He was taken to Graham, Texas.

Two companions escaped on foot after exchanging shots with the officers. A posse was organized to pursue the fugitives.

The man, dressed as Santa Claus, led the group of five robbers who held up the Cisco bank and engaged in a general fight before escaping from town last Friday. The chief of police of Cisco said one of the robbers received fatal wounds, while seven other persons were shot.

Claude Wylie, 23, was abducted from his home near Putnam, Texas, yesterday by the robbers and compelled to drive them in his car to Cisco early today. He gave Cisco authorities a good description of the men, leading to their identification by Sheriff Jim Foster and other officers when the robbers drove toward South Bend this morning in a car taken in Cisco.

The officers gave chase and wounded the leader as he jumped from the machine. His companions escaped in a running gun fight with the officers.

POSSE FAILS IN HUNT FOR KIDNAPED TEXAN

Baird, Texas, December 26.—(AP)—A 24-hour search by a large posse tonight had failed to uncover a clew to the whereabouts of Carl Wylie, 22, who was forced into a motor car at the point of a pistol at his home, 15 miles northeast of here, last night by several unidentified men.

Asserting that their automobile had been in a wreck and that they wanted to take an injured woman to a hospital, two men appeared at the home of R. C. Wylie, grandfather of Carl, and asked for the loan of a motor and then kidnaped young Wylie.

Lynchings - 1927
Side Lights

Wisconsin

2685

Slayer Of Two Kills Self When Found In Refuge By Posses

MADISON, Wis., Mar. 19.—After fatally shooting Allen Henderson, 55, and his son Walter, 20, chicken farmers near here early Saturday morning, Harvey Nelson, 35, white, shot and killed himself early Sunday when found by a sheriff's posse and the police in a garage not far from the scene of the slaying.

Nelson watched the doors of the garage open and, as he sat in the driver's seat of an automobile, a revolver in each hand and a sawed-off shotgun across his lap, declared he would not shoot any member of the posses. He then raised one of the revolvers to his temple and fired.

Lynchings-1927
States, Special Information about Particular.

2386

LYNCHING WORST BLOT ON U. S. CIVILIZATION

3,224 Recorded Lynchings in U. S. in 31-Year Period Ending in 1918

(From the New York World.)

With the inauguration this week of John G. Richards as Governor of South Carolina in place of Thomas G. McLeod, and with the meeting immediately afterward of the Supreme Court in Aiken, the State has an opportunity to set an example to the South in the punishment of mob violence. The case which confronts it is flagrant. The lynching of the three Lowmans; one of them a woman, one of them a man whom the judge was about to order acquitted as innocent, was peculiarly cruel. The evidence of the identity of some members of the mob is clear. This evidence is in form to go before the Grand Jury. The hoodlums, the Negro-baiters, the politicians of the Cole Blease type, are asking, "What are you going to do about it?" If there are no indictments the conclusion will be clear that in parts of South Carolina the mob is stronger than the law. The eyes of the South should be upon Aiken and Columbia.

There is no defense for lynching to which an American State can give a moment's tolerance in the second quarter of the twentieth century. The old excuse of the "usual crime" has always been simply bunk. There were 3,224 recorded lynchings in the United States during the thirty-year period ending in 1918. Less than one-fifth of the colored men lynched were even accused of the "usual crime." This roster of lynchings actually included fifty colored women. The motives for lynching vary. But there can be little doubt that the principal motive in the 4,000 lynchings which are estimated to have occurred in the South since reconstruction is the desire of ignorant and savage white men to strike terror into a subordinate race struggling to rise. When the Negroes become self-assertive, these men decide that a lynching "will take it out of them." That is the conclusion of careful students. Gov. Dorsey of Georgia told a conference which he called in 1921, when the State in two years had witnessed 135 cases of lynching or outrageous assault:

In some counties the Negro is being driven out as though he were a wild beast. In others he is being held as a slave. In others no Negroes remain. In only two of the 135 cases cited is the "usual crime" involved.

The Western States have long since suppressed lynching, and there is no reason why the South cannot do as well. In fact, it has already shown what it can do. In 1922 there were sixty-one lynchings, a normal number. But that year the agitation for the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill reached its height, while the South took alarm also at the continued northward migration of Negroes. The number of lynchings declined to twenty-eight in 1923 and sixteen in 1924; it remained at sixteen in 1925. This was due to the pressure of public opinion and the wide effect of the repressive measures of such Governors as Dorsey of Georgia and Morrison of North Carolina. Now the totals show a tendency to rise; but what the South has done once it can do again. It needs Sheriffs who will use the hose or, if necessary, the riot gun; county prosecutors who will obtain indictments and Governors who will spur on the local officers. Georgia had just one indictment to 400 lynchings before Governor Dorsey entered office; but the year 1922 saw twenty-two mob participants indicted and four sent to the penitentiary.

Behind the local officers should stand an increasingly aggressive public opinion. The press, represented by such newspapers as the Columbia State, the Birmingham Age-Herald, the Charlotte Observer and the Atlanta Constitution, has given far more attention to lynching in the last few years than before. Southern denominations, supported by the Federal Council of Churches, have begun a vigorous campaign. County committees of race relations and even county leagues for law enforcement have increased rapidly. Lynching is to a large extent an evil concentrated in a small number of backward communities. Ouabita Parish in Louisiana is credited with nineteen lynchings in thirty-four years, Caddo Parish with eighteen, Marion County in Florida with thirteen, Hinds County in Mississippi with twelve. An impressive number of counties in even Georgia and Mississippi have never had a single lynching. A vigorous State opinion can make the delinquent counties ashamed of themselves. It is the verdict of The World's special investigator at Aiken that it will be many years before that community, pilloried as it is, permits another lynching.

The worst blot on the South, the worst blot on American civilization, is lynching. Is the State of Rutledge and Hayne and Calhoun going to deal with that blot as it should?

NO LYNCHINGS IN ALABAMA

In recent years it has been the exception rather than the rule for a lynching to occur in Alabama in a given twelve-month period. Again in 1926 according to records gathered by the statisticians at Tuskegee Institute, not a single lynching was reported in Alabama, a State in which mobs had killed a total of 300 persons since 1888.

Alabama is justly proud of its recent record. Public opinion in this State has turned steadily against mob violence as an agency of retribution. Most of our political leaders and most of our editors have been sound on this question, and their leadership is now bearing fruit.

TWO LYNCHINGS IN FOUR YEARS IN ALABAMA

The Advertiser has made a special effort to check the lynching record of Alabama during the past four years in view of the widespread impression that there were no instances of mob violence in that quadrennium. We regret to report the records show that instead of no lynchings in that period there were two.

January 1, 1926, The Advertiser printed the annual lynching report issued by Tuskegee Institute in which one lynching was credited to Alabama for 1925. We have seen no specific dispute of this record.

Both The World's Almanac and the records of Tuskegee Institute credit one lynching to Alabama for 1923.

Answering a request for information about 1923, Prof. Monroe N. Work, editor of the Negro Year Book and director of records and research for Tuskegee Institute, writes us:

> It appears that there was a lynching at Adamsville, Alabama, on July 13, 1923, but it was not reported to the press. After we sent out our lynching report for that year, we received a letter from Ensley, dated February 8, 1924, stating that there had been a lynching in Jefferson county in 1923.
>
> The circumstances, according to unpublished reports were that an old colored man named W. M. McBride was charged with frightening a crowd of school children. It was further reported that he was arrested and charged with assault. When the case came to trial, the children stated that they were merely frightened by the old man, and he was discharged. On the following morning he was found dead about three miles from his home.

Professor Work encloses a letter from a correspondent in Jefferson county under date of February 23, 1924. The correspondent says that McBride was lynched. He relates that on the night of July 13, 1923, two automobile loads of men came to the house where McBride was. They said they had a warrant for him, "but did not read the warrant, but forced him out of the house and into a car and speeded him away, and the next morning he was found about three miles from his place dead. The woman that was at his house tells this, but she was ordered to leave here and she has left." This certainly has the appearance of a lynching.

Undoubtedly, Alabama's lynching record has been steadily improving for many years and in more recent years we have frequently gone a twelve-month without a mob killing. No one is more proud of this improvement than The Advertiser, but this newspaper hopes that the day may soon come when every year will give Alabama a clean slate

MOB RULE TOOK HUGE JUMP THE PAST YEAR

Thirty Lynchings Versus 17 in 1925, Is Record.

BY R. M. GATES.

WASHINGTON, April 6.—Thirty lynchings in the United States during the year 1926 shocked the churches in their campaign for a lynchless land, the Federal Council of Churches said in making public today its annual honor roll of states free from lynching during the 12 months.

The figures for the year showed a sharp increase over 1925, when only 17 lynchings were reported, and five states formerly on the honor roll were removed because of mob violence within their borders.

"One of these states, New Mexico, had a record of no lynchings for a period of 10 years preceding," said the Rev. Peter Ainslie of Baltimore, chairman of the executive committee of the council's race relations section.

"The four other states which ... free from the evil in 1925, but ... ch lost their places on the honor ... because of lynchings during 1926, were Kentucky, South Carolina, Tennessee and Texas.

"The list showing the state's free from lynchings in 1926, in classified groups over periods of years, follows:

"States that never had a record of lynching: Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont.

"Additional states that have no record of lynching since 1886: Connecticut, Maine and New Jersey.

"Additional states that have no record of a lynching during the past 20 years: Delaware, Michigan, Wisconsin and Nevada.

"Additional states which have no record of a lynching during the past 15 years: Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Maryland and South Dakota.

"Additional states which have no record of a lynching during the past 10 years: New York, North Dakota, Oregon and Pennsylvania.

"Additional states which have no record of a lynching during the past five years: Arizona, California, Colorado, Kansas, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, North Carolina, Washington, West Virginia and Wyoming.

"Additional states which have no record of a lynching during the past two years: Oklahoma and Illinois.

"Additional states which have no record of lynching during 1925: Alabama, Louisiana, Missouri, Ohio and Utah."

The statement did not go into detail as to where lynchings had occurred during the year, but said that 38 states were free of such occurrences.

DEMOCRAT-
CHRONICLE
ROCHESTER, N. Y.
MAR 18 1927

Facts Without Comment

Georgia is the tenth state in population with about three million people. It is second in the number of its illiterates, exceeded only by New York with more than three times its population. It is not far from the head of the list in number of church members, and perhaps at the top in proportion to population. It is first in the number of lynchings in the period covered by statistics, with 431, Mississippi being second with 400. Toombs and Treut'en are two of the fourteen counties in its Twelfth Congressional District in the heart of the state, less than one hundred miles from Savannah. They are contiguous counties, Toombs being named after Robert Toombs, perhaps the outstanding and most forceful political figure the state has produced.

This thumbnail history of the historic commonwealth which entered the Union on its formation in 1788 and had three signers of the Declaration, adds interest to what is going on just now in its counties named above. For more than a year two rival masked gangs have staged night-time activities practically once a week. One organization feels it incumbent to discipline with the lash citizens, of whom there seem to be some, who do not approve the traffic in moonshine whisky or "moon" as it is called for short. The other organization is composed of reformers concerned to improve the general moral tone of the community. To that end they punish with barbarous lashings persons of whom they disapprove—men and women, sometimes a whole family, now and then a preacher, marital partners who quarrel, Negroes held to be lazy, and others. One reported flogging was that of a man who kept company with a widow, and another was a citizen who neglected to pay a fine. The official administration of law and justice is paralyzed, broken down. Elected officials have abandoned all attempts to function for the maintenance of public order. Night riders are in the saddle, and in their secret conclaves combine the three functions of government, making, interpreting and enforcing all there is of law in those strangled and prostrate communities.

The foregoing is not editorial comment but a bare recital of facts. Readers can draw their own conclusions as to the causes of these abominable conditions. To find them paralleled we have to go back some centuries into a state of society when intelligence was undiffused. These Georgians are our contemporaneous ancestors. They are stagnant backwashes along the current of human progress. They live in a past which we have left behind. Across the border in South Carolina there are communities equally backward, though just at present their retardation is shown in a different way. That government is now active in enforcing conceptions of propriety which are not more than one hundred years old, which is not so now arresting Sunday golfers and even spectators depraved enough to watch such games. Seemingly that has become a more dangerous pastime than participating in lynching parties. At any rate we recall no case where so many arrests followed commission of mob murder.

N. Y. C. HERALD TRIBUNE
FEBRUARY 13, 1927

Racial Amity in Aiken

Notoriety of a Single Lynching Shadows South Carolina's Comparatively Good Record

To the New York Herald Tribune:

The prominence accorded a recent lynching episode at Aiken, S. C., has given an entirely false impression of the conditions prevailing there. A visitor from the North expects to find an incipient race riot brewing on every street corner, to observe bands of white men armed with sawed-off shotguns and coils of rope lying in wait for luckless Negroes. On the contrary, a more peaceful town never drowsed in Southern sunshine, and the relations between the white and colored inhabitants are markedly amicable.

South Carolinians of the best and most representative class make no effort to condone lynching per se. Nor do they attempt to justify the overriding of a court decision, as was done in the case which was given so much publicity. They simply feel that the notoriety given to a single episode was unfortunate in view of the fact that the lynching record of the state is comparatively very low and that the figures have been steadily decreasing.

The writer recently spent several weeks in Aiken, and, although his eyes are in excellent condition, did not observe a single instance of racial hostility. In the case of minor offenders brought up at the police court, Negroes are treated with more leniency than whites. The colored law-breakers frequently elect to work out their very reasonable sentences on the roads, becoming members of the so-called "chain gang," a term which in the public mind is a synonym for cruel hardship and abuse. The Negroes of the chain gang, however, obviously find life pleasant enough. They are not compelled to work very hard. A happy-go-lucky crew, they are content so long as they have food and shelter. The Southern sun shines just as brightly on road menders as on a millionaire rolling along in a Rolls-Royce. Moreover, Negro members of the gang are allowed to go to their homes at night. The white officials know that they will be on hand in the morning, and very sensibly take the view that there is no necessity for keeping them cooped up in jail over night.

Surely it stands to reason that this privilege would not be granted unless the general attitude of whites toward Negroes was a kindly one. Instead of being treated as dangerous criminals, colored persons who commit small breaches of the law are regarded as naughty but lovable children, for Southerners really like Negroes and understand them. Colored servants on plantations in South Carolina still show a marked feudal dependency and feudal loyalty. In return they are allowed all sorts of little privileges.

The contention that Negro prisoners are well treated in South Carolina is further borne out by this paragraph, which appeared in a Charleston newspaper on December 24 last: "County Sheriff Joseph M. Poulnot has arranged plenty of smoking tobacco for the prisoners in the county jail. From a local cigar company he has purchased 100 packages of cigarettes and twenty-five tins of pipe tobacco. The prisoners will get these to-morrow with the Sheriff's compliments." The great majority of prisoners referred to are Negroes.

The lynching record of South Carolina, it has been said, is very low in comparison with that of other Southern states. Figures, though not exciting witnesses, are reliable, so let us hale them into court without apologies. The Tuskegee Institute reports that between the years 1889 and 1926 129 Negroes were lynched in South Carolina. This compares with 406 in Mississippi, 433 in Georgia, 266 in Alabama, 203 in Arkansas, 209 in Florida, 287 in Louisiana and 280 in Texas. During the year 1925 not a single lynching occurred in South Carolina, though seventeen took place in other states. No Negro has ever been lynched in the city or county of Charleston.

The general decrease of lynching in the United States does not appear to be fully realized. The seventeen cases of 1925 may be compared with the thirty-three of 1923 and the fifty-seven of 1922. Ten of the victims lynched in 1925 were taken from the hands of the law. Between 1885 and 1894 1,073 Negroes and 848 whites were lynched; in the next decade the figures were 690 Negroes and 270 whites; from 1904 to 1914 lynchings totaled 701, and from 1915 to 1924, 537.

"The fact that practically all the Negro laborers of the state are unskilled workers," the editor of a Charleston newspaper told me, "helps to prevent trouble, since these workers do not compete with skilled white workers as they do in the North. Although some 125,000 persons are employed in the cotton mills operating in the upper part of South Carolina, none of them are Negroes. Moreover, we have no race wars here. Until this Aiken case came along we had come to believe that we were through with lynching. We South Carolinians will be grateful to have the public reminded that despite this unfortunate case the lynching record of the state is very low, and that we recoil as strongly as any Northerner from lynchings which are made an excuse for sadistic orgies."

R. H.

New York, Feb. 8, 1927.

Lynchings-1927
States, Special Information about Particular.

2387

Alexandria, La.
FEB 23 1927
Jour Gaz

NO LYNCHINGS IN LOUISIANA

Five States Have One Each and Four Have None

ATLANTA, Feb. 23.—(By A. P.)—"Marked strides" of advancement in several phases of race relations were made in 1926, the commission on inter-racial co-operation has reported.

The commission did not give the number of lynchings in the South but referred to Tuskegee Institute's report showing thirty victims of mob violence in the year. The situation was described as "discouraging bu not hopeless," when considered alongside the former average of 107 a year for a period of forty years.

"No lynchings are reported for the year from North Carolina, Oklahoma, Louisiana or Alabama," the report said, "one only each from Arkansas, Kentucky, Tennessee and Virginia and Georgia."

"Georgia, for example," it continued, "had but one lynching last year, and that of a white man, as against a forty-four year average of eleven. It is significant, too, that nine alleged participants in this crime were indicted and tried and sent to prison, one of them for life (since the report was prepared another man has been convicted of participation in the lynching and sentenced to life imprisonment).

"Since Florida seemed to be the chief remaining stronghold of the lynching evil, every effort possible was put forward to enlist the forces of law and order in that State for its suppression," the report said. The number of lynchings was said to be unavailable, but the commission said: "Members of the staff have investigated a number of cases personally, making altogether seven trips to Florida, and spending in the aggregate several weeks in the State.

"They have succeeded in enlisting the interest the State Bar Association, State and local chamber of commerce, officials, churchmen, educators, private citizens and students in the efforts to have the perpetrators of mob violence brought to justice."

An opinion current in some quarters in Texas, the report said, is that four of the seven lynchings in that State grew out of private vengeance and that if such cases are to be classed as lynchings "the many group murders in Herrin, Chicago and elsewhere should be put into the record also."

"The foes of lynching," it asserted, "might as well face the fact that to eradicate this crime they must wage not a single battle but an unrelenting war."

No strong point in this war has been more gratifying, the commission said, than the work among college students.

Immediate results in negro welfare work are significant, the commission believes, and promise permanence. A "helpful change of public sentiment," is noted in Alabama, Louisiana, Tennessee, Georgia and the Carolinas.

Negro welfare agencies have been increased in community budgets in several Southern cities, notably Dallas, Greensboro, Houston, Louisville, Lynchburg, Memphis, Mobile, Nashville, New Orleans, Richmond, Savannah and Atlanta.

COMMERCIAL APPEAL, MEMPHIS, TENN.
NOV 30 1927

Already there have been 15 lynchings in the south with one turbulent month left on the calendar. The figures are compiled for this column by Monroe N. Work, director of records and research at Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute and editor of the Negro Year Book.

These lynchings for 1927 are divided as follows:

Mississippi	7
Arkansas	3
Tennessee	2

Louisiana, Missouri and Texas, one each.

The crimes alleged were murder 6, attempted murder 2, rape 2, attempted rape 3, improper conduct 1 and charge not reported, 1.

In this tabulation Arkansas shows some improvement, as do Louisiana and Texas, while Tennessee, a state that had an unsullied record for years, shows a deep jungle curve.

Both Tennessee lynchings occurred in Middle Tennessee, within 50 miles of Nashville, the seat of Vanderbilt University, George Peabody College for Teachers, Ward-Belmont College and other famous educational institutions, white and black. It is a paradox that such things, smacking of the barbarism of cannibalism and human slavery and of the un-Christian dark ages, could occur so near the seat of light and learning. Ignorance, superstition and intolerance stalk abroad as the triple threat in the south.

There is but one answer to the forces of darkness. It is the answer of education and Christian enlightenment.

Lynchings - 1927
Total by Years.

2385

CLEVELAND, O. NEWS
Aug. 13, 1926

Lynching History

BETWEEN 1889 and 1925, inclusive, there was in the United States a total of 3,559 lynchings. Of these victims, 724 were white and 2,835 were colored. The only states with a clean record are New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut and Utah. Georgia has the worst report, with 448, and Mississippi follows.

The lynching toll has dropped rapidly in recent years, thanks primarily to post-war migrations, and secondly, to the aggressive investigation work by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, an organization composed of members of both races and headed by Moorfield Storey, of Boston, a former president of the American Bar association.

An interesting theory has been advanced for the prevalence of lynching in America, aside from the clash of races. It is held that America was settled by the more aggressive of the old inhabitants. The stay-at-homes lacked the ambition to move. With the emigrant's good qualities were his bad ones, which included a fondness for combat and a tendency to violence. Our high murder rate, aside from lynching, is offered as additional proof of this theory. We hold life cheaply.

With pioneer days over and a uniform civilization being established everywhere, the sacredness of human life is preached more effectively. But there are long strides which remain to be made before we can with rhetorical truth "point with pride" to the superiority of western civilization.